SHE IS BRAVE

SANDRA THE SURVIVOR: Hope after the cyclone

ACCESS ALL AREAS
Live-streaming the gospel into North Africa

LIFE’S FIRST CRY
The reunion

BACK TO IRAQ
You brought hope to soldiers and refugees through one amazing pastor
I’ve got an unusual request. Stop reading these words, and skip straight to the next page. Take look at that little family, a dash of cerulean against a bleached doorway. Drink it in: the little girl with her hand burrowing into the folds of her mother’s skirt, the little boy snug in his mother’s arms. His name is Navid, and, without your help, he probably wouldn’t be alive today. You gave generously to our Life’s First Cry appeal to save the lives of mothers and babies in Afghanistan, and 18 months later, we’re inviting you to the most heartwarming of reunions (page 14), to see the incredible impact your gifts have had.

I hope this image encourages you that we can make a difference. Keep remembering that as you encounter the other stories in this issue of Engage. They invite you to scramble through the rubble of homes destroyed by Cyclone Idai (page 10), and feel the burden of bringing the gospel to places where less than one per cent know Christ (page 7). They mean confronting diseases which threaten the lives of people without access to clean water (page 16). But as you read, I hope the thought of that little family, Navid and his mother who are doing so well today, encourages you. That it helps you to remember the difference you’re already making in the world. God has prepared so many good works for us to do. And he goes ahead of us as we reflect his light in dark corners.

God bless you,

Hannah Watson
Editor

Write to me at magazine@bmsworldmission.org

Subscribe to Engage at www.bmsworldmission.org/engage
4. News
How you brought hope to flooded Bangladeshi villages.

5. God’s unchanging gospel
Dr Kang-San Tan on listening to God.

6. You went the extra mile!
You’ve collected stamps and run miles to raise money for BMS – thank you!

7. Access all areas
“I’m the only Christian in my country”. Live-streaming technologies are reaching North Africa with the gospel. This is the story of the voices who reply.

10. She is brave
What one woman in Mozambique taught us about bravery after Cyclone Idai.

16. “This water is a fantastic gift”
You’re saving lives by bringing clean water to Afghanistan.

18. Letters
An Iraqi pastor shares how you equipped him to bring God’s love to refugee camps and soldiers wounded in battle with ISIS.
Destroying homes, crops and schools, the flooding caused by this year’s monsoon season in Bangladesh was some of the most destructive and deadly reported in recent years. The rising waters wreaked havoc on remote areas, leaving thousands of people without hope. Until you stepped in.

Your generous giving through BMS World Mission’s relief ministries provided a total of 1,000 people with emergency relief parcels. Led by BMS partner the Bangladesh Baptist Church Sangha (BBCS), the food supplies meant people in remote villages in Sreemongal, Manikgonj and Shirajgonj didn’t go hungry.

“People told us that nobody had come to help them,” said John Karmakar, Assistant General Secretary of BBCS, “but BMS quickly sent aid.” Fatima*, a single mother of three, was so happy to receive the food that she cried. “I didn’t have any hope,” she said. “But help came from God and from you.” BBCS pastors also found opportunities to encourage Hindu and Muslim families with the Christian message of hope as they distributed the packages of rice, salt, lentils, sugar and oil.

A future grant, which will go towards rebuilding livelihoods in the flooded region, is in the works because you gave in abundance, kick-starting long-term recovery. Thank you.

*Name changed

BANGLADESHI FLOOD SURVIVORS RECEIVE PARCELS OF HOPE

You brought aid to 1,000 people in desperate need

Disaster recovery
When you give to BMS relief ministries, you enable us to quickly deliver aid when a disaster strikes. Give today at http://bit.ly/bms-disaster-recovery

Communities helped:
1,000 people from 200 Christian, Hindu and Muslim families

Food parcels contained:
- 30kg rice
- 2kg salt
- 3kg dhal*
- 2kg sugar
- 5l of oil
- 400g chira†
- 6 packets of matches

* a staple Bangladeshi dish made of lentils
† a flat rice that’s easy to prepare

John Karmakar (pictured right), Assistant General Secretary of the Bangladesh Baptist Church Sangha (BBCS) helped to deliver emergency food supplies to 200 Christian, Hindu and Muslim families.
Christians are navigating changing trends in mission today. The old paradigms, which God used so greatly in the past, no longer serve missions as well today. The church planting and evangelism of the modern mission movements have resulted in maturing churches in non-Western nations. But at the same time, we are acutely aware of a changing Britain, whereby we are not immune from rising nationalism, the challenge of migration, huge gaps between rich and poor and the ecological crisis. How do we free ourselves from our national agendas as we seek to participate in God’s unchanging and global missions?

Having consulted with a wide range of stakeholders in the UK, as well as international partners, BMS’ leaders are seeking God in our strategy for 2021-2025. Referring to salvation by faith in Christ, made known through the Scriptures, the writer of Hebrews urged Christians to “pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away” (Heb 2: 1).

Please join us in praying that BMS will remain faithful to God’s unchanging gospel as we discern new strategies which are appropriate for our changing and complex mission scenes.
Thank you

You went the extra mile!

Racing for refugees!

David had already decided to sign up for the Runstock 2019 race. But then he heard about BMS’ work supporting South Sudanese refugees, and knew this was his chance to do something to help.

David ran, walked and even crawled ten laps of a 5km course – a whopping total of 50km! And he did it all in support of BMS’ South Sudan’s Conflict Survivors appeal. “I think it’s great that BMS is working to support refugees from South Sudan,” David said. “I’m so grateful to everyone who sponsored me. We have so much to give to people who have so little.”

Thank you so much for running to support South Sudanese refugees, David! You’re helping people rebuild their lives after devastating civil war, as well as thousands of others across the world, and we can’t thank you enough for your support.

If you’ve been inspired to support South Sudan’s Conflict Survivors, head to bmsworldmission.org/survivors to donate today.

Philately will get us everywhere

For over 90 years, BMS supporters have been collecting stamps for us – and you’ve got our stamp of approval!

You raised an incredible £17,500 through the BMS Stamp Bureau this year. “The money raised is used to do kingdom work,” says Ben Drabble, Head of BMS’ Funding Team. “That’s all thanks to everyone who’s sent in their stamps, and to our fantastic volunteers who keep everything running.” Please do keep sending in your stamps, albums and collectables – you’re helping us do some first-class fundraising! If philately (stamp collecting) is your thing, find out more about the BMS Stamp Bureau at bmsworldmission.org/stamps

Your voices, heard

We asked you for your thoughts on our 2020 strategy – thank you for your feedback!

A huge thanks to the many people who filled out the Strategy Survey included in the previous issue of Engage magazine. Your thoughts and opinions are incredibly valuable to us, and we want to thank you all for using your voices to shape the future of BMS World Mission. We can’t wait to see all God has in store!
How Facebook and former Muslims are bringing Jesus’ hope to North Africa, thanks to the workers you support.

“I’m the only Christian in my country.” BMS’ media mission is streaming the gospel into parts of the world where fewer than one percent know Christ. This is the story of the voices who reply.

There’s less than five minutes until we go live when the team rush into the studio to pray. Presenters Joe and Zinah are poised on set, microphone wires tucked into crisp shirts, the sound check finalised.

‘There’s not enough time,’ I think. ‘Praying now?’ But the media centre I’m visiting is fuelled by three things: coffee, hard graft and prayer. Back in the control room, I perch on my seat. “Don’t forget, you can pray too!” says Andrea, BMS’ Director of Arabic Productions, from her seat at the switch deck. I bow my head. Five, four, three, two… one. We’re rolling.

I flew to the media centre, situated in a secret location in the Mediterranean, at the beginning of Ramadan. I’m here to experience the broadcast of a Facebook Live Stream, one of several shows that are filmed for North African audiences at this time of reflection and celebration for the Muslim world. The shows, presented by North African Christians Joe and Zinah, are aimed at encouraging questions, with the hope that discussions will point towards knowing Jesus in a Muslim context.

Tonight’s broadcast is about fasting: interrogating its purpose and how to do it well. There are no water glasses on set – the team want to be culturally sensitive, especially during Ramadan. As Joe and Zinah warmly welcome viewers to the show, the first comment pings up on a Facebook thread. Habib, the centre’s Christian apologist, taps out a reply for all those watching the stream. For those who don’t want to
leave a public comment, Habib opens WhatsApp. These private channels are where the most thrilling conversations happen. Truth-seekers speak more openly behind the protective walls of encrypted messaging.

We’re halfway through. Cameras on her, Zinah’s speaking so confidently, but just an hour ago she’d been close to tears. As they sat in the makeup chairs, with Andrea multitasking as foundation retoucher and translator, Joe and Zinah had been telling me about last week’s show where Zinah had received an angry comment telling her to return to Islam live on air. Ordinarily these comments are ignored, but Zinah had surprised us all. “I cannot leave my God of love,” she’d told the viewer. “God is not angry with me. Jesus says we have eternal life.”

“In that moment, I felt that I was really strong because Jesus was with me,” Zinah said, her eyes shining. “It was a healing from the past. From culture, from religion, from the man having more right to say things than you. From being ashamed.”

I know that Zinah has been rejected by family – almost all the North Africans at the centre have been. But they bear no ill will. “When most of our families are still Muslim, how can we be against them?” Joe asks. Their commitment to grace is still evident during tonight’s show, and Ian, BMS’ Studio Manager and Producer gives the presenters the signal to wrap up. Joe and Zinah field final questions about how Christians can respect their Muslim families during the fast. Then, we pile into the prop room to hear who Habib has been speaking to.

A lady called Khadisha has been inviting her friends to watch the show. Then, a strange and disjointed message arrives over Facebook. Hani is a refugee living in Turkey who has seen the Facebook Live and wants to talk, despite the show being in a very different Arabic to his own. He’s so interested, he’s willing to struggle on in a dialect he can barely speak. When Habib, who lost half his family in an Aleppo bomb blast, realises Hani is Syrian like him, he laughs in delight. They speak the same kind of Arabic. Hani’s been wanting to know more about Jesus for a long time, and now he’s found someone who can tell him. It’s like it was planned.

Habib tells us about Fatima, another viewer who’s overwhelmed by a dream in which she saw Jesus, and Si’id, an atheist who wants to be sent an Arabic Bible. Some viewers introduce themselves as ‘Ahmed’ or ‘Hassan’, only to reveal themselves weeks later as nervous women, hiding behind the protective power of a fake name. New believers will be connected with churches in North Africa. Over 150 others have seen the broadcast by the time we leave the studio. Only Habib will be up until midnight, conversing, reasoning and explaining.

With paid advertising the
video would reach hundreds of thousands, but I’m about to find out why it’s not just a case of being willing to pay. I’m with Ian when he chuckles. One of the videos has had its advertising pulled by Facebook. It’s disheartening to know it will appear on the feeds of hundreds instead of thousands now, so the team have to laugh in moments like this. Facebook wants to be sure to avoid controversy, so some adverts are rejected – the videos must be clever, almost parabolic, in order to slip through the algorithms. “It was too religious in nature,” Andrea tells me later.

Laughing in the face of this, given all the work that’s gone into the show, is possible when you’ve been doing it for as long as Andrea and Ian have. They’ve been here for 15 years, reaching out and listening to the replies. Using their media skills to share hope. “They’re the grease that moves the wheels,” their team members tell me. “Heck, they’re the whole car.” Andrea laughs at this, but concedes that they are the “glue”. Various centre managers, directors, prop researchers, production editors and financial managers, Andrea and Ian even built the studio we’re now sitting in.

When they began serving with BMS, no-one else was making Christian television programmes for North African people in their own dialect. “Now, our audience are seeing the gospel as something that can belong to them,” says Andrea. “Jesus isn’t just for one country, or for the West.” In a world where technology can often feel like a destructive influence and social media a drain, BMS workers are harnessing their power to share Jesus. And, because you support Andrea and Ian through your giving, through social media technology, Jesus is being met. “We’re on the frontline,” says Andrea, “but BMS supporters are what’s helping us to stay on the frontline.” Ian agrees. “We can’t do it without your prayers.”

Jesus isn’t just for the West

Joe and Zinah sit on set. Almost all the North African workers at the studio were rejected by family when they turned to Jesus.
Sandra is a little taller than five foot and had greeted me and BMS World Mission worker Sergio Vilela with the greatest smile. I’m here to speak to Sandra and do some filming of BMS projects. Someone tells me the name Sandra means “she is brave”. But her kind and mothering nature were now clouded by the nervousness of being on camera. Sandra lives with neurofibromatosis, a genetic disorder that causes tumours to form all over the nervous system. These tumours can grow almost anywhere, including on your hands, face, spine and brain. They started to grow on Sandra when she was fifteen. That’s why her husband left her. Now bringing up three children alone, struggling to pay rent, the cyclone was the last thing she needed.

It’s my second filming trip to Beira, Mozambique, but this trip follows one of the largest cyclones to hit Africa. Now six months on, the decimated city is still tackling the practical and mental effects of the damage. In a tight-knit suburb of the city lay a large heap of jagged rubble. It looked more like a rough pebbled beach against the setting sun than the remains of a family home. Pulling out two chairs from next door and asking the neighbours behind us to turn off the Pop classics, we sat in the middle of Sandra’s house.

When conducting interviews, I look to situate my interviewee in the most comfortable location possible. Not an easy task in this building site. Sandra started to tell her story, and, now relaxed and ignoring the camera, if anything, her caring energy and laughter put me at ease. Sergio translated for me, as Sandra explained that this land was owned by her family. Knowing her deteriorating condition and struggles to pay her rent, her mother and brothers had started to build her a family home to live in. The cyclone hit a week before completion on the build.

Cyclone Idai reached frightening winds of above 120mph, killing over 1,000 people as the storm sheared through the seaside city. Previously that day I had spoken to a gentleman who’d thought he was going to fly...
away looking for his brother in the rubble. Others camped in trees for days until they could be sure flood waters wouldn’t pull them under. Taking shelter, Sandra escaped.

“After the cyclone, I was very anxious about my brothers and sisters,” Sandra tells me. “Especially when I saw my new house had fallen, I was worried about them.”

Sandra’s family was fortunate, with only her brother’s house losing an external wall. Sandra joined her hands in silent prayer as she thanked God for protecting her and her children that day.

Sergio is interpreting and expressing Sandra’s feelings from Portuguese, and I’m aware he knows only too well the pain the storm has left. With the BMS team in Beira, he has been able to throw himself into BMS’ disaster relief programme, working with churches to hand out food packages to vulnerable families and provide support to churches and leaders reconstructing buildings and communities. Sandra was one of the people helped by Sergio, through churches in Beira.

Sandra loves church. I can tell as I fight to adjust the mic levels to capture her excitement as I film our interview. As a vibrant member of a small group, she had told them about her new house before the cyclone. “To have a house was an immense dream for me,” Sandra says. But months later, during a time of prayer, she broke the news that the house had fallen during the wind and rain.

Chatting with the church pastor and Sergio, the small group decided she needed a safe place to live. Reaching out to a BMS church partner in the UK, Sergio expanded the funding for the rebuilding work to start. “The church community helped so many families with food and supplies after the damage was done. I thank God for the heart that the pastor has,” Sandra adds.

This is just a glimpse of how a

Cyclone Idai was one of the most severe tropical storms to affect the Southern Hemisphere, causing catastrophic damage across Mozambique.
generous outpouring of prayers, donations and support is transforming lives after Cyclone Idai. Without faithful, active congregations in the UK, BMS wouldn't be able to respond to tragedies just like Sandra's all over the globe. I am so honoured to see it working firsthand.

With clear blue skies and banana trees leaning over us in the light sea breeze there is no doubt that exciting miracles are yet to come in this place. Admiring the new build in progress, with walls and a basic floor plan established, the words from 1 Corinthians 2: 9 kept repeating in my head: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived are the things God has prepared for those who love him.”

The atmosphere is full of excitement from all of us at the sight of Sandra’s new house taking shape. But her passion for people and for expressing God’s love through community is even more stunning. Every day, Sandra comes around and cooks for those who are building her new home, to serve them like Jesus did, cooking for his disciples on the beach. “My dream is to start a small group in my house so I can talk to people about God and share the Word of God,” she says. Sandra is an example of how small church communities can inspire strength in relationship with one another, with God at the centre: “It’s so important to belong to a small group. People say what’s going on in their lives, and you can ask for prayer. Small groups are key to growing as a body of Christ.”

I have no hesitation that Sandra will change and shape the face of that community through her expression of love for God’s people.

Thanking people after filming overseas has always been a struggle. I always feel I’ve haven’t expressed enough how grateful I am. I fumble through the language barrier to show my heartfelt appreciation for the privilege to record a snippet of someone’s vulnerability. I want to thank Sandra, and as we slowly wrap up, I ask if I can take some photos of her in front of her new house. This is the only time I have ever been ministered to in a photo shoot.

She sang and worshipped the Lord in every photograph and video. “Hallelujah, Gloria de Deus (God’s glory), Amen.” Moving the rubble of her old house with her scarred hands, Sandra’s beaming face was a testament to the joyful spirit she’s been blessed with. Carrying bricks I could barely lift, she was building God’s kingdom and we were all invited in. I left hoping I’d captured how brave she is. The sense of the beauty this woman’s heart holds.

My time in Beira was short. At one point my filming schedule wasn’t looking like we were going to be able to meet Sandra. I’m so glad that I did. I have one of the most incredible jobs and I am so grateful we had this opportunity. To see the ways in which God is powerfully moving people to action. Through your giving BMS is empowering unbelievable people like Sandra, their churches and communities. We should tell their stories. I will.

BMS worker Sergio, pictured with Sandra, has been at the forefront of recovery projects in Beira, from food relief and rebuilding projects to capacity building.
avid is sleeping in his cot when we walk into the room. But he soon wakes up and, bleary-eyed, clings to his mother as he looks around at the unexpected visitors who have rudely interrupted his nap. Roya, his older sister, is nervous to meet us. She’s worried we’ve come to give her an injection... it’s apparently common to tell your children that if they’re not good the foreigners will come and give them a shot. But slowly she’s coaxed into the room. No-one is going to get jabbed with a needle today.

A year and a half after filming Life’s First Cry, we have driven the long and bumpy road back to see how Roya and Navid are doing, and to tell their parents the impact their story has made – £186,000 raised in our Harvest appeal to help more women and men like them in Afghanistan, as well as thousands of other people around the world.

Little Roya is dressed in bright blue and wears the same apprehensive expression she had the last time a bunch of foreigners turned up in her house. She’s taller now and appears shy, watching us from behind her mother’s elbow, inquisitive when she thinks no-one is looking. She smiles as I roll her the toy car I found on the window sill, and even poses, hands on hips, for the camera as we’re leaving. She’s due to start school next year.

Navid isn’t a baby anymore. He’s got a real little-boy-face and big dark eyes. Like his sister, he is adorable. He wraps his hand around the cord of the microphone we have clipped onto his mother, and I worry he might snap it with his small fingers. But he doesn’t. His sister looks across at him with love as his mum talks to us about her life now, about her family’s life.

Andisha smiles more than I remember. Her children – now six and two – are still healthy and happy. She doesn’t need to fear that she will suddenly lose them, like she did the first 11 children she gave birth to. These babies survived. They’re growing. They have the hope of happy, full lives.

I ask her how it feels to know that, because of her story, more women and men in Afghanistan are getting the lessons that saved her children.

“I’m very happy,” she says. “I am happy that now I have children, and they’re still here and they’re healthy. And I think it’s great that
more people can see this and learn, and that their children can also be healthy too! So thank you.”

What are Roya and Navid like, I wonder, now they’re getting a bit older. “My daughter is kind of naughty,” Andisha admits, laughing. “My son is very calm. They like to play, they like to play with toys and have fun.”

Mohammad is out working when we visit, and I am sorry to miss him. But, a few days later, as we are travelling to another remote village far from his, I spot him walking along the dusty road with three donkeys laden with goods to sell. I can’t believe it is Roya and Navid’s dad, here, in the middle of nowhere. What are the chances? He chats with the local team like they’re old friends, smiling and laughing and joking. They’ve made such a difference in his life – first helping to save his children, and then bringing clean water, sanitary latrines, literacy skills and nutrition courses to his village. You’ve helped to change not just Mohammad and Andisha’s lives. You’ve brought flourishing to their whole community.

We are thrilled that Andisha, Mohammad, Roya and Navid are doing so well, and we hope you are too! Thank you for praying for them and for supporting BMS work through Life’s First Cry, so that more children in these beautiful, incredibly remote mountains, can live – like they were born to. •

*All names have been changed
Ashkar* smiles and raises his voice over the sound of running water. We’re standing next to a piped spring, under a plastic sheeting shelter – village leader Lashkar’s brainchild – a greenhouse to protect the outlet from rain and snow, and to ensure people don’t get too cold in the winter as they collect water for their families. “This has completely changed our lives,” he tells us. “It’s basically like we have water in our homes.”

I’m not an engineer, and I can’t really comprehend where this water is coming from as I drive away from the village with the BMS-supported team. We stop at a big rock-and-cement-construction built out of the side of the mountain, about two kilometres up from the village. This. This is the source of the water. Under here lies a mountain spring that has transformed this village. Creation never ceases to amaze me. A trench was dug from here, down into the community. Pipes were fitted. A lot of maths was involved. And now, this village has constant running water in three places. Clean, fresh water. Water that isn’t going to kill their children.

It blows my mind. These are things I have never thought about, having always had the luxury of turning on a tap.

“If you ask me, you won’t find anything of better quality in the whole of Afghanistan,” says Lashkar proudly. Every man in the village was involved in the hard manual labour of getting this water into the community. And it was so worth it.

“We’re not getting sick anymore,” says Fereshtah*, squatting with a group of women, wrapped up warm and using the spring water to wash dishes. I ask if the water is clean now, and all of the women answer in unison, “Arre” – yes – and nod enthusiastically. “Quite a few children have died from getting sick and weak from diarrhoea,” Fereshtah says, speaking of the years when they were sharing contaminated river water with their livestock. “The kids were sick all the time from the water. And we were getting sick ourselves.”

The view from the spring is mud and snow in all directions. Small houses, built from the mud of the mountain they sit on, mixed with straw and held up with wooden beams. And their backdrop – the brilliant brown and white of snowy mountainsides stretching endlessly up and away. At the bottom of the village, not yet frozen over, runs the small river that was, until recently, the main (and incredibly dangerous) water source for this community.

Here, when someone gets sick, there is no doctor on hand to help. No nurse. The nearest hospital is at least an hour’s drive away, and most people don’t have access to a car, or savings to pay for someone to drive them. Preventing sickness in this village will result in many saved lives. And you’ve helped make that possible.

The water from the pipe splashes and gurgles. It is making me thirsty and I drink the final dregs from...
my water bottle. Laughing, Lashkar tells me to refill it from the spring. It’s as good and clean as anything I’ve been drinking, he assures me. And I don’t doubt him.

Women walk down from their houses to fill their bright yellow jerry cans and carry them back up to their homes. It takes them five minutes. Before, it took them at least 25. They’ll use this water for drinking, cooking, washing – everything.

“This is one of the basic needs of life,” Lashkar says. “It’s a blessing for every family in the village. This water is a fantastic gift for us all, and has made a real change!”

As we drive away from the village, a group of children run after our car, waving and laughing and smiling. Tonight, their mums can give them a glass of water without worrying it might make them ill, or worse. Tonight, and every night, they can drink until they’re not thirsty anymore. A pure, simple gift.

Thank you for giving clean water to families in Afghanistan’s Central Highlands. Thank you for helping to fight sickness, disease and death in these villages. And thank you for bringing a little taste of heaven to villages in desperate need – clear as crystal, an overflowing stream.

*Names have been changed
Dear friends,

In Iraq, we don’t have any evangelical seminaries. The time that I spent at ABTS in Lebanon was an excellent period in my life. When I went back to Baghdad and started pastoring the church, I saw it was important to share the gospel message, especially about loving your neighbour, outside of the church – particularly seeing the difficulties the Church and the country of Iraq are going through. We have a unique situation in Iraq – there are several religious groups: Mandaeans, Yazidis, Shabaks, and more. What we studied at ABTS convinced me that we should build good relationships with others, especially as our church started its relief projects. We were open to every minority and religion that was under pressure from ISIS.

September 2014 marked our first relief distribution, giving food packages to displaced people from Shi’a backgrounds coming from north of Mosul. This is the way we can show other people the love of Christ. And in 2015, we prayed with and presented the love of Christ to around 15 soldiers in hospital who were wounded in a battle with ISIS.

Theological education is important – for me, it means not being limited by the church building. God’s message is to go outside the building. We participate in Baghdad International Book Fair every year, gaining respect from others when they see the church bringing Christian resources to this celebration. It’s a good time to be creative and active as Christians in our country.

ABTS is doing amazing work in the Arab world – several of my contemporaries are now doing exciting work in Egypt, Sudan, Algeria and Morocco. I want to thank BMS supporters for what they’re doing, and encourage them to keep supporting ABTS’ students, because the product is a good product for changing local situations and building God’s kingdom.

Thank you,
Pastor Ara Badalian

Pastor Ara Badalian graduated in 2012 and is now a visiting lecturer in New Testament theology at ABTS.

“WE WERE OPEN TO EVERY MINORITY THAT WAS UNDER PRESSURE FROM ISIS”

BMS gives four grants each year to support students of ABTS. These are students who will graduate and go out into countries all over the Arab world, theologically equipped to meet the challenging contexts they’ll speak into. All this is only possible thanks to your generous giving. Thank you.
I prayed for a year

Thank you so much for including an update on Wang Daeng in Engage Issue 45. Having been praying for them for a year and being without internet, it is very encouraging to receive news.

Noel Herschell

Never too young!

I was reading the latest copy of @BMSWorldMission Catalyst and looked up to see my little one had picked up Engage. He thought the pictures for the Albania appeal looked like his nursery so we stopped and talked about how we can help people we don’t know as well as those we do.

Leigh, via Twitter

Inspired by your article

Inspired by your article on page 19 of Engage Issue 45, ‘Long Lost Donation’, I am sending you a moneybox which we had given to us about ten years ago by an elderly church member. I have no idea of its vintage but if you would like it for your collection and any information you have on it would be welcome.

J C Stables

Editor’s Note: If anyone has any information about the moneybox, please do write to me at magazine@bmsworldmission.org

A lasting legacy

My mother-in-law was a supporter of BMS, receiving your prayer letter, and donating from time to time. When I was sorting out some of her mail, I came across one of your newsletters and was both moved and excited by the stories there of your varied initiatives. From the legacy which came to us after my mother-in-law’s death last year, I would like to make a donation to the work of BMS.

Barbara, Gloucestershire

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 two!
GOD’S WORLD
GOD’S WORK
FROM YOUR CHURCH.

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OF BMS WORK LIVE.

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Call Carolyn on 01235 517631 to start the adventure today.