

## God's grace and new braces for Nadiyya



Mission partner Michael Green helps Nadiyya, age 11, take her first timid steps

**A young girl in Jordan who suffered a brain injury** from extreme abuse at age two is doing something few people thought possible – walk. She's also being introduced to the love of Jesus.

This is thanks to the persever-

ance of mission partner Michael Green, a nurse in Jordan who first met Nadiyya seven years ago on a visit to the hospital to which he has recently been transferred.

"She was four at the time and most people assumed she'd never

walk," Michael recalled.

"Once I got placed at this hospital and became responsible for her care, the first thing I did was get her assessed for braces. Nadiyya received her braces three weeks ago."

**"I explained to her the death and resurrection of Jesus in Arabic."**

Not only are the braces helping Nadiyya walk but they are straightening her posture. "We work on her walking daily. Sometimes she laughs and enjoys it and other times it's hard, but she's doing it! We take her for walks in the garden. Because she is mostly blind, she likes experiencing the smells and feeling the plants."

On Good Friday Michael ventured out and took Nadiyya to an exhibition for children called "The Journey to the Cross", which

had multi-sensory activities to help engage with the story of the crucifixion. "Nadiyya enjoyed the perfume smell of the nard that Jesus was anointed with, she ate bread like Jesus blessed, she felt a crown made of thorns, she helped nail pieces of paper with sins on them to a cross and she touched empty grave clothes. All while I explained to her the death and resurrection of Jesus in Arabic.

"Due to her learning disability, I couldn't ask her if she wanted to follow Jesus, but it was so good to see her emotional responses to the various elements.

"I felt so privileged to take Nadiyya through this journey and so encouraged that the person who helped me was a local Muslim nurse who heard the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. Please pray for Nadiyya, giving thanks for her growing ability to walk, and pray that the truth and love of Jesus will continue to make a deeper impact into all hearts and lives here."

## Whole Hindu village comes to Christ

**A whole Hindu village in Bangladesh has come to Christ** and now has a place to worship him together, thanks to the Church of Bangladesh and a grant from CMS.

CMS manager for Asia Adrian Watkins said, "In 2009 CMS sent a grant for the construction of a church at Bajpukur in Rajshahi Deanery. The whole Santali tribal village had recently accepted Jesus through the work of the Church of Bangladesh. The building opened in April."

The Rt Rev Samuel Sunil Mankhin, Bishop of Kushtia, sent his thanks to CMS donors for their generosity. CMS currently supports four mission partners working with the Church of Bangladesh Social Development Programme.

**A CMS grant helped provide this church for a village of new believers**





A few of the thousands of Indian Christians being equipped to share Jesus in their communities

## First-generation Christians in India sharing gospel with thousands

**One hundred and thirty-five** first generation Indian Christians completed the "Following Jesus Christ" course run by CMS partner TAFTEE North India earlier this year and are joining hundreds of other graduates in sharing Jesus across India.

**"The course helped me know Jesus and the Bible better so I can now share with others."**

Vikram and Hari, both from Hindu backgrounds, have started

weekly gospel-exploring meetings in their houses. Both live in villages where they are the only Christians. "The TAFTEE course helped me know Jesus and the Bible better so I can now share with others," said Vikram. Likewise, Pathras has returned to her village and is starting a small Bible study group in an area where Jesus' name is rarely heard.

With thousands of Indian Christians undertaking this training, TAFTEE staff predicts that 20 million Indians across 11 states will hear the gospel within the next five years.



One of 31 families moving from the streets to new homes

## Ground broken on "home for happiness" for Delhi's disabled

**A community of disabled and displaced people** who have been living in inner city slums and on the streets of Delhi are set to receive new houses in a resettlement colony called, appropriately, Anand Niwas, or "home for happiness."

According to mission partner Dave Ingleby, working on this project with Habitat for Humanity India, 31 families are benefitting from this project. In Dave's words, "Our God of justice has a passion to lift up the poor and those at the bottom of society's heap."

## A marathon for mission

**An injury requiring medical attention** didn't stop Dominic Monney from completing the Brighton marathon in April as a sponsored challenge for CMS.

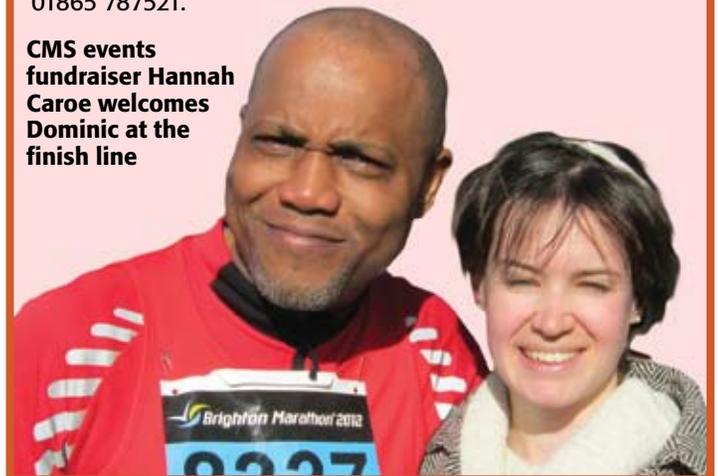
His completion time of 5 hours 53 minutes was testimony to what was written on his shirt that day: **"I wanted to support the work you do... seeing lives changed – for Jesus."**

When asked why he was taking on this challenge, Dominic replied matter-of-factly: "I'm Christian and I wanted to support the work of the Kingdom. The work you do...touching people's lives and seeing lives changed for Jesus – is the most important work there is. I believe every child of God is mandated to 'Go and make disciples of all nations.'

"I've been on mission trips to Bogota, Mali, Israel and Benin Republic. Going on mission helps your growth as a Christian. You face situations that challenge your faith. That's when you can either give up and run or hope in God."

So far, Dominic has raised more than £750 for CMS mission. A huge thank you to Dominic and all those who support CMS in this way. If you, like Dominic, want to step out in faith by taking on a sponsored challenge, contact [hannah.caroe@cms-uk.org](mailto:hannah.caroe@cms-uk.org) or 01865 787521.

**CMS events fundraiser Hannah Caroe welcomes Dominic at the finish line**



## Jesus' birth celebrated behind bars in Nepal

**Dozens of prisoners in Palpa got a nutritious meal and a chance to hear the gospel** this Christmas, thanks to Timothy mission partners Bishnu Gyanwall and Dev Kumar Khadka. Dev Kumar spoke about the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus with the prisoners and they all prayed together.

This Christmas meal has become an annual event for the past few years, since Bishnu began



his fruitful prison ministry. Many prisoners have been baptised and several church fellowships started behind bars.



**Kalisa, who received expert care at Gahini Hospital, now plans to become a doctor himself**

## Paralysed patient seeing his dreams come true

**A young paraplegic man in Rwanda** is looking forward to his future, thanks to his hard work and to CMS mission partners past and present.

Kalisa is a former patient of Liz Hardinge, a previous CMS partner who served as a physiotherapist at Gahini Hospital Rehabilitation Centre. Thanks to the care, schooling and encouragement he received at Gahini, Kalisa was able to leave Gahini six years ago and pursue secondary education.

Drs Bertha and Wim Schoonbee, current CMS mission partners at Gahini, were pleased when several months ago, Kalisa returned to the hospital and told them he'd just completed his school leaving exams in biology, chemistry and physics, obtaining

very high scores.

Wanting to earn income before leaving for university, Kalisa joined the hospital craft-making team. "He has doubled the amount of our card designs," said Bertha. At a market in Kigali, people bought cards and a shop is now carrying them regularly.

**"We praise God that the rehab centre gives people with disabilities new futures."**

"Kalisa has fond memories of Gahini and praises the Lord for providing for his needs," Bertha said. "He has hopes of becoming a doctor himself one day.

"We praise God that the rehab centre, disabled children's hostel where Kalisa used to live and the crafts project all contribute in giving people with disabilities new hope for their futures."

## Hope flowering in shanty town

**This Christmas, 130 children in the deprived area of Laura Flores, Ecuador,** received bags of bags full of donated sweets and biscuits, thanks to generous supporters. A further 36 people took home bags of clothes and toys. Mission partner Jill Ball, who has worked in this area for years, is grateful to God for transformation she sees take place in this community built on a rubbish dump: "A new church is



being planted and with it a social programme with literacy and skills training to help people overcome addictions and poverty. It is hard to know where the church part ends and the charity starts; it's all one work, what they call 'holistic ministry' – a posh way of saying we minister to body and soul."

**A young girl in a shanty town receives a Christmas gift, thanks to generous supporters**



# My story

## A way in manger square

**Church of the Nativity, Manger Square, where Mary visited weekly to share the gospel**

**By mission partner Mary Fairfield, Bethlehem**  
**My husband Derek and I have been working at Bethlehem Bible College for two years.** Our visas have expired and we are back in the UK, considering future steps. But I want to tell you about my last day in Bethlehem.

Since we first arrived, I've made weekly trips to Manger Square to share the truth and love of Jesus with tourists and locals. I've had some interesting and wonderful encounters and conversations. On my last day in Bethlehem I wanted to make one final visit.

I entered the church there and prayed that Jesus would be exalted in Bethlehem. Muslims respect Jesus as prophet, teacher and miracle worker – they actually have more respect for Jesus than your average secular British person who uses his name as an epithet. Yet, I prayed that people would get a bigger picture of Jesus as redeemer.

**"I was just in the church, praying God would send me someone to talk to about him!"**

Then I prayed: "Please Lord, could this last time be a bit special in some way to confirm your interest in this tiny bit of work for your kingdom?"

After I exited the church, I saw a young Palestinian woman on her own and I asked her if she was interested in faith matters. Her reply astonished me.

"I was just in the church, praying God would send me someone to talk to about him!"

We went to a cafe and had a long talk about Jesus. Then we went back to the church to pray together. I showed her a prayer of commitment to Jesus and asked if she would like to pray this prayer and begin to follow him. As she read the prayer she began to cry and said yes, she wanted to take this step. Praise God!

I've put her in touch with someone at the college so that she has someone to talk to now that I'm gone. Please join me in thanking God for this amazing last day in Bethlehem and for all the opportunities I've had to share Jesus with people of different faith backgrounds during my time here. Please pray for this young woman, whose name I've withheld for security reasons – that she will grow in her faith.



**Mary Fairfield (bottom left) with student Bible study group, Palestine**

## PIONEERING NEW MISSION TO ABUSED GIRLS IN BRAZIL

**Young girls in Brazil who have been abused** and forced into the sex trade will now have new hope, thanks to mission partners Andy and Rose Roberts in Olinda.

Having worked hard to share Jesus with boys from Olinda's dangerous streets through a project called My Father's House, Andy and Rose were dismayed to discover there are currently no such Christian outreaches to the city's thousands of vulnerable girls.

So they are starting a charity to do just that. "UNICEF esti-



**New ministry will help girls from the Olinda streets go from the sex trade to safety**

mates that there are around 500,000 children involved in the sex industry in Brazil and even more suffering systematic abuse at home," said Andy. "Often it's the girls' parents who force them into prostitution." Last year Andy and a colleague risked their well-being to rescue a young girl from just such a situation.

Since the 2004 tsunami in Asia, Brazil has overtaken Thailand as the capital of sex tourism. "A majority of children forced into prostitution here are

between five and 14 years old," Andy said.

Andy and Rose have met with the local child council and justice department, who have

**"there are currently no Christian outreaches to the city's thousands of vulnerable girls"**

pledged their support for the new charity. "It will take a lot of time and work but we believe this is where the Lord is leading us," Andy said.

## Hundreds in faraway village receive vital healthcare

**A total of 346 patients in a remote Tanzanian village** were given vital healthcare in just over eight hours, thanks to mission partner Dr Ruth Hulser and her team from St Philip's Health Centre.

"When we arrived in Mpulu, which is more than 70km from the nearest hospital, people were already waiting," said Ruth. "My colleagues and I, 12 of us in all, saw 150 children and conducted 57 ante-natal exams

before we drove the three hours back to Tabora."

This visit was part of a new enterprise, designed to reach people who have viturally no access to any primary care.

**Newborn twins in Tanzania born to a struggling mother receive hand knitted clothes to survive the wet season**



## NEWS BRIEFS

CMS partner, the National Mission Commission of Nepal has **trained and sent** four Nepalese missionaries to remote areas of Nepal, where all are **servng as pastors** in churches requiring skilled leaders.

**After a failed suicide attempt**, a wealthy man named Mark turned up at Riverchurch, led by mission partners Amy and David Roche, saying he was seeking God's help. He now attends Riverchurch regularly and the Roches give thanks for Mark's life and ask for prayer for his continuing search.

**Mission partner and anti-FGM** (female genital mutilation) crusader Ann-Marie Wilson has been selected to join the medical team as a first responder/aider at the **Olympics and Paralympics** this summer. Pray for her as she'll be an ambassador for London and for Jesus.

**Being stopped by a police officer** turned into a chance to share the gospel, says mission partner Chris Padayachee in Spain. "The message was well-received, so please pray." Prayers are also needed for Fatima, a **new believer in Jesus from an Arab background**. "She has to keep her faith a secret, reading the Bible a few pages at a time before sealing the pages in a plastic bag and hiding them in the toilet cistern."

**In addition to providing skills** and employment to 100+ disabled people at Neema Crafts in Tanzania, mission partners Ben and Katy Ray are also grateful for the employees' growth in faith: "Every week begins with Bible reflection and staff prayers... recently **nine trainees have asked to be baptised**. We were thrilled!"

# MISSION Update

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