



Deaf Ministries International

Issue 10 | September 2016

Maliza: *Hope through sponsorship*

Syria:
Seeing God at Work

Tanzania:
An answer to prayer

**Neville's
Update**

Fundraising efforts



www.deafmin.org

Neville's Update	
(Written when I was in Zambia, three weeks ago in the second week of my African visit)	
Dear friends and supporters,	
We are ready to head off today to visit some of the kids we support in the area. We will then head out to the two prisons to visit the prisoners we are working with and also visit the lawyer who is representing them. This will be a four day trip out of Lusaka. Please pray for the Petition for Clemency which has been sent to the President of Zambia on behalf of Emmanuel. There is usually an amnesty in October so we are praying and hoping that Emmanuel will be included in this. This month however, is election time, so during the possible turnover of President we are also hoping that this Petition letter does not get lost in the shuffle.	
I am traveling with Gunnar Dehli our Norwegian director. His luggage is a bit lighter than mine as some of it was stolen from a bus on the way from Uganda to Kenya. Laptop, iPad, binoculars, cash and all his notes and photographs were among the items taken. Insurance will cover the equipment but not the materials. The 'fellow' passenger who stole these things hopped of the bus, forfeiting his ticket, but stood to make a huge profit in doing so.	
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We are thankful for an upturn in support since the last newsletter. We were able to meet our commitments for the last two months, but have not been able to make up the loss from the three months of previous drought. Thank you to those who gave at this time.

The first part of this trip was spent in Kenya with one day and an overnight stay in Nairobi. The rest of the time was out west in Ringa at our school for the Deaf. It was the last week of term so we arrived in the middle of exams. As soon as these were out of the way I started on the photography sessions for sponsorship purposes and had the kids make their Christmas cards. It seems odd preparing Christmas cards at the beginning of August but it does take time getting all of this processed as our sponsorship program is fully managed by volunteers.

Thanks to the efforts of an American pastor, Michael Gantt, we are now

sporting a few new buildings. The boys' and girls' dorms are now proving to be good accommodation. A recently completed assembly hall-cum-dining room, would be the envy of any school. Mike committed to the construction of a double-storey set of class rooms to replace the temporary ones which are in use at the moment. As soon as these are done, we can commence a High School. Mike, like the rest of us, was becoming a bit discouraged at the lack of response in finding the \$80,000 needed, with only a trickle coming in. While at the school we received word that a donation of \$21,000 had been made after he spoke at a Christian writers' conference. Now with faith and enthusiasm restored, we are trusting that the remaining amount will be found quickly.

Thank you all again for your support and interest.

God Bless,
Neville & Lill



Washing up

Snack time!

Making Christmas cards

School Chapel



Tanzania

An answer to prayer

In our last newsletter, you may recall that one of workers, Daniel, was struggling to provide papers needed to gain permanent residency for himself and his family. He had been told that the papers had been destroyed by fire during tribal fighting in Kenya. Thank you for your prayers because, praise God, he was able to obtain all the paperwork he needed and is now able to proceed with the application!

One of the Tanzanian churches for the Deaf spent forty days fasting and praying after suffering persecution from the community. They were praying for protection from those who believed that what they were doing was a waste of time. The outcome was that, at the end of their forty days, the police captured an Islamic group (who were living next door to the church) who had been killing people in north eastern Tanzania. The church is so thankful for the way that God answered their prayers in such unsettling times.



Church members fasting and praying

Syria

"Dear friends,

Greetings from Damascus to you all and we wish that your days be filled with real joy from our Lord Jesus. We would like to thank you for your encouragement and prayers. We are pleased to share with you our news from the last few months.

At the beginning of April we had a special day for deaf ladies. There were fun games and they enjoyed eating Syrian food. It was an amazing day for them. Shortly after we had a special day for the men too, which was more focused on strength and sport!!



We celebrated Easter on the first of May. We spent a wonderful day celebrating with the Deaf.



We had a new couple join us in June who were both refugees, after losing their houses and jobs four years ago. We were able to help and support them as they celebrated their wedding day.

Sahar, a deaf lady from Damascus, was suffering loneliness as she was living with her mother and had no friends, job or income to support herself. She began attending our deaf meetings a few months ago. Since then, we thank our Lord we've seen a change in her life. We ask you to pray with us that her life be new and a shining light.



June was a sad month for us because Fadi's mother passed away. But we comforted by the fact that we know that she is now in heaven with our Lord Jesus Christ.



Fadi and his mother

We continue with joy to meet with deaf children on a Monday morning and then are joined by adults in the afternoon. We also continue to meet on a Sunday in our local church. As a result of the war, many families are struggling. Our church is continuing to provide food aid for deaf families every month.



We are in the process of preparing for our summer conference for the deaf. We pray that this will be a special time of blessing for those that come.

*Please continue to pray for DMI in Syria,
Fadi & Nedal"*

Maliza - Zambia

It took two days in all to go visit this little boy. For those who don't know, he is a little, severely handicapped boy, whom Lewis found while looking for Hastings. Hastings is the boy whose father had contacted Neville from prison and asked if he could find him and help him.

Had school not been out at the present time the search would have been easier, but it made for an adventurous trip. We had no idea where the village and compound where Maliza lives is, except that it is about one and a half hours out of Choma. The best way to describe it is, somewhere in the middle of nowhere.

There were no sign posts, and except for the first few kilometres of a corrugated dusty road, the rest were just tracks through the grass. Had Lewis not been with Neville & Gunnar, there would have been no hope of finding the place. It was the dry season so the tracks were passable. Had it been the wet season, we would never have made it.

When the group came to Maliza's home they found him lying in the dust with some of his siblings.



The poor kid nearly freaked out when he saw two white people visiting him. The parents were shocked too as they had no idea that visitors were coming as there isn't any SMS contact or electricity in the compound.

This little kid has been on our hearts for so long now and Neville really wanted to visit him for the sake of his sponsors.

As is common in most African homes there were kids everywhere. Neville asked the father how many children he had and he started to count them on his fingers until Mama interjected and said, “Eleven!”

This is a polygamous family; the dad has two wives. One wife, who is Maliza’s mother, was at home looking after the kids and the other was out looking after the cows. In total there were eleven kids, two wives, Maliza’s father and grand-ma, all living in the compound.

Such a large number of needy children came across Neville’s path during this past couple of weeks, it impossible to help them all. Thank you to those who have helped to make one little boy’s life better and for all the other sponsors who give to support 400+ kids through the DMI/Deaf Action programs; many more sponsors are still needed.

**If you would like more information to sponsor
a child like Maliza, you can find it on page 8**





STUDENT SPONSORSHIP

Deaf Action's sponsorship program assists deaf children to attend schools in remote towns in Asia and Africa. \$40 a month helps to cover costs of education, skills and moral training, which equips them to lead productive and fruitful lives. Programs range from kindergarten right through to college level. The schools also work with young adults who have missed out on schooling due to poverty or lack of opportunity. You can help by sponsoring a child in either Myanmar, the Philippines, Kenya or Uganda.

For more information please contact:

Deaf Action
info@deafaction.org.au
Ph: 03 5940 5431
www.deafaction.org.au



Fundraising Update



Congratulations and a huge thank you to Matt Farmilo (DMI finance manager), and his wife Andrea, for completing the Run Melbourne half marathon to raise funds for Deaf Action. Together they raised over AU\$1,000. Both of them trained intensely for the event and took huge chunks of time off their personal bests! An awesome effort!



FAMILY FUN NIGHT!

Live entertainment, auctions, trivia, you name it, they had it all at the Family Fun Night held in Berwick, Victoria, on July 30th. A big thank you to Chris Hennequin, Geoff Brooke and your team for putting on such a successful and enjoyable event.

The night raised over AU\$12,000 which will be used to build kitchens for the DMI schools in Davao and Ligao in the Philippines. Their current facilities are a far cry from what is required to cater for their needs.

***If you would like to host a fundraiser in aid of DMI or Deaf Action, please contact our office: Ph: (03) 5940 5431
info@deafmin.org***

Would your church, small group or club like to hear more about DMI's vision?

A DMI representative would delight in sharing their passion to reach the deaf with the Word of God; to engage, educate, equip and empower this disadvantaged people group, enabling them to realise their God-given potential



YES, please consider us for a speaking engagement on one of the dates indicated below:

.....

 Contact:
 Phone:

DAY	DATE	
	/	/ 2016
	/	/ 2016
	/	/ 2016

You can also contact us by

Phone or email:

(03) 5940 5431

info@deafmin.org

DMI Conference 2017
 will be held in
NORWAY!

June 12 - 16
Stavern Folkehøyskole (Fredtun)



**Are you considering to participate in
 the DMI Conference next year?**
Register to be updated with latest information
www.dmi2017.com

It's Your
Opportunity to Give



Wills & Bequests



Considering DMI in your will?

When preparing or updating your will, we would ask you to consider leaving a bequest to DMI.

By leaving a bequest to DMI, this legacy will continue to be invested in the lives of an often overlooked people group.

***Please contact us if you
require more information***

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P O Box 395
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e-mail: info@deafmin.org

SHORT TERM MISSION

Has God put it on your heart to do something for people less fortunate than yourself? It'll be an amazing opportunity to support & encourage deaf students and staff at the Christian schools, support local churches, do some practical work and much more.

Interested or need more info?
Contact DMI Office: (03) 5940 5431
info@deafmin.org



Prayer and Thanksgiving

Praise the Lord that budgeted support was sent to the fields for two months in a row. Continual thanks and prayer that God will provide sufficient funding for the work to continue so that lives will be changed through Christ.

Pray for Neville's health to remain stable as he continues his ministry to these disadvantaged communities of Asia and Africa.

Give grateful thanks that Daniel (a Kenyan citizen) was supplied with the documents required to attain permanent residency in Tanzania; an answer to prayer.

Pray for the work in Syria; for the safety of our workers and their young families as they continue to share God's love, despite living in a country that is at war.

Give thanks that Neville was able to visit Maliza and his family to encourage them and share with them the love of our Heavenly Father.

Pray for all those who are working in the fields for DMI and Deaf Action. Pray for God's continued protection, wisdom and direction as they emphasise the good news of Christ.



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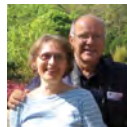
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www.deafaction.org.au

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