

Deaf Ministries International

Issue 27 | April 2020

Taking the Gospel to the Deaf

Certainty in Uncertain Times

I think we are all in a place where we can sympathise with each other through these uncertain times that are affecting all countries around the world. No one seems to be untouched by the implications that COVID-19 has caused. Here in Australia, we are a few weeks behind other countries with the spread of the virus and we remain positive that our government acted wisely and quickly enough to minimise that spread. As I write this, I am not in the office but at home with my three boys. We are all trying to do our part to work around circumstances that are beyond our control. It is times like this when I am so thankful that we have the assurance that, no matter what this world throws at us, we will always have our Heavenly

Father who will never leave us. In a world that seems to be out of control, He holds everything in the palm of His hand.

Psalm 91 seems to be a Psalm that many have found comfort in during this time. To me, especially verses 14 & 15 which say; 'The Lord says "I will rescue those that love me. I protect those who trust in my name. When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue and honour them."'

What does all of this mean for DMI? We have received emails and reports from our fields saying things that we are all starting to experience. Our schools in the Philippines and Kenya have been closed. The Philippines and Kenya are also on full lock-down.

We are still waiting to hear from many of our fields, but communication seems to be slow. We will put updates on Facebook and the website as we receive them. Supporting countries are not exempt, with many also experiencing country lock-downs or it won't be long until they do. With the drop in the Australian Dollar, this has meant that the exchange rate has increased the cost to send the full budget to the fields. We continue to pray that God will provide as He always does.

We know that this time will affect DMI's finances greatly as people are unable to give as they usually would.

In this issue:

Ligao's Kitchen Complete

International Conference Postponed

Malawi receives funds for motorbike



www.deafmin.org



We are so thankful for our loyal supporters who generously and faithfully continue to give towards the work, even when times are tough. Even a small amount can go a long way during these times. We have had no option other than to postpone our international conference, Bing & Annabel's (Ligao,

Philippines) visit to Australia and several local fundraising events. We hope to be able to reschedule these events when all of this is over. Please continue to be in prayer for DMI as we navigate through this season. That the work will continue, so that we can be Jesus' light

in places of darkness. Pray especially for the deaf communities who are struggling to understand what is happening to the world during this time.

Blessings,
Amy Jack
Editor

Ligao

A gift that brought joy



A small financial gift was given to DMI to be sent to the schools in the Philippines. The instructions we were given was that it was to be spent on the children. We received an email of gratitude from the school in Ligao saying they used it to provide the students with a rare feast of fried chicken

with sides. There were lots of happy faces not to mention full bellies! What a treat!



Ligao's Kitchen Complete

Last year we shared how fourteen-year-old Chelsea Smith, generously raised over \$20,000 dollars for the Fishermen of Christ Learning Center, in Ligao, to renovate their dining room and kitchen. What a gift! Well, we are happy to report that the renovations are complete and the facilities are beautiful. Staff and students are so grateful to Chelsea for seeing their need and finding a way to fund it. Thank you to all of you who donated towards this project. By the smiles in the photos you can see that all those who use the facility are extremely thankful!



As many of you will know, Typhoon Tisoy slammed into the Philippines at the end of last year and left a trail of damage. Unfortunately our school in Ligao was in its path. Thank you to those who have generously donated towards rebuilding and repairs. Funds have been sent and progress is being made, but we are still short by \$20,000 to complete the rebuild.

If you are able to help us with this disaster relief effort it would be appreciated. Just go to <https://deafmin.org/donate/> and please add reference "Disaster relief" to your donation.



Motorbike for Malawi



In our previous newsletter we included an update on the bakery in Malawi and how they were recovering after severe flooding. The article also showed how they were now expanding the business providing a delivery service and were praying for funds to purchase a motorbike to be able to expand their deliveries further afield.

We are so pleased and thankful to say that sufficient donations toward this project have come in and the workers have now able to purchase the motorbike. We look forward receiving photos of the bike and to following this business venture, watching it grow.

Kenya School

Our year 8 students graduated after sitting their National exams, in which again, they scored top results out of the whole country. When we say, “whole country”, this includes the country’s hearing students as well! Our school’s performance has been very impressive. The Local Government and the Ministry of Education has recognised our performance at the New Year’s Education Day. Of our year 8 graduands, seven were admitted to Kuja High for the secondary school education and one was admitted to Sikri Vocational College. Congratulations to all those graduating students! What an inspiration you all are!



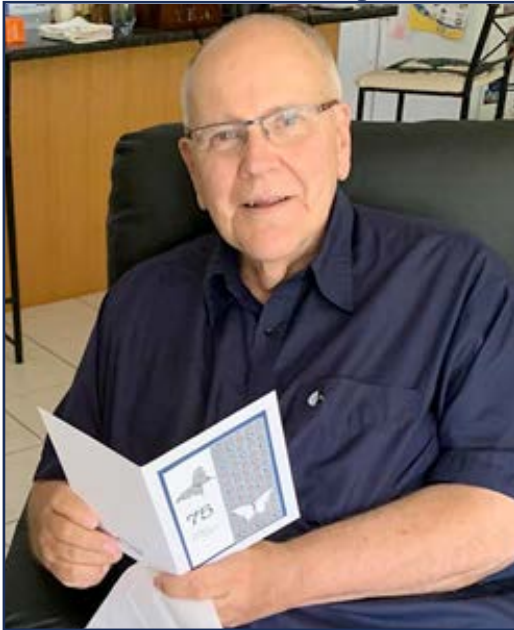
The DMI’s 8th International Conference

POSTPONED



The DMI’s 8th International Conference that would have taken place in Mombasa, Kenya, this year from 10th – 15th August is POSTPONED. Due to current developments with the Novel Coronavirus, the International Board decided to avoid risks and to postpone our three-yearly conference to an unknown date in 2021. The conference’s location will remain the same. All made payments will be reimbursed, and all reservations are lifted. Please pray that all of our students, employees, and all others involved stay healthy in these hard times.

Neville's Update



A wonderful 75th birthday mid March

We are certainly living in difficult times. I am at the hospital as I write waiting first to see the oncologist then going across the road for another bag of bright blue chemo medicine. My cheeky nurse told me I would turn blue so was disappointed last time that it did not happen. I still have the needle in me from the morning's test so don't have to endure another jab.

We are now in stage 3 restrictions so all people like me, old and with a compromised immune system, have to be extra careful. It is a bit of a drag but we have so much to be thankful for. We can still go to the supermarket or at least get someone

to go for us. There is food enough and even toilet paper!!

For me to be tied down is a bit frustrating so I am enjoying the outing to the hospital even if it is to have chemo administered.

Entering into this time of uncertainty with people losing their jobs, and others not knowing what is going to happen, makes it so difficult for us to plan our work and support what is going on. Our schools are all closed except for the one in Myanmar. Some, particularly in the Philippines, are confined to their homes and are unable to go out to the point they can't buy food as there is no transport available. We are very fortunate.

Thank you for your continued support of our work even when you are in difficult straights yourself. We do so much appreciate your kindness and love. Please continue to pray for the work, the deaf whom we are involved with, that their needs will be met during this confusing time.

Thank you and God bless,



Neville & Lill Muir

Praise and Prayer

- Thank you Lord for those who generously contributed toward the renovations of the kitchen and dining room at Ligao. We now pray for the provision of the remainder of the funds needed to finish the rebuild of the rest of the school.
- We give thanks for the funds provided to purchase a motorbike for the Malawi bakery. We pray that by having this bike, the business will grow and flourish and that more people, deaf and hearing, will come to know You because of it.
- Thank you for the awesome achievement of the students in the Kenya school. We pray for them as they enter the mainstream schooling system that they will continue to excel in their studies, preparing for the plan that You have for their lives.
- We pray for our World at the moment. There doesn't seem to be a country that hasn't been touched by this terrible virus. We pray for those who are struggling in lockdown with no access to food or supplies at this time. We pray for those that are on the front line, giving care to those who need it most at this time. We pray for the deaf communities, who may be confused as they piece together what information they can about the current situation. But most of all, we continue to give You all the praise and the glory as You are our God who will never leave or forsake us.



www.deafmin.org

**DMI Evangelistic
Donations:**

Please make cheques payable to:

**Deaf Ministries International
Details for EFT:**

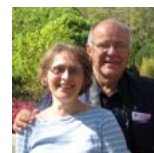
BSB: 633-000

Account: 145833539

**Deaf Ministries International
P O Box 395
Beaconsfield, Victoria 3807
Australia**

Ph: 03 5940 5431

e-mail: info@deafmin.org



**International Director
& Missionary
Neville & Lill Muir
muir@deafmin.org
lill@deafmin.org
0402 181 820 (Mobile)**



www.deafaction.org.au

**Tax-deductible
Donations:**

Please make cheques payable to:

Deaf Action

Details for EFT

BSB: 633-000

Account: 145834263

**Credit Card facility available at office
Paypal facility (secure) on website**

**Deaf Action
P O Box 395
Beaconsfield, Victoria 3807
Australia**

Ph: 03 5940 5431

e-mail: info@deafaction.org.au