

Regional Round-up

Tastes of Thailand Trip Round Up!

"If we paint the fences on Monday, perhaps then we could go see the elephants on Tuesday before we help in the garden on Wednesday."

That's not the usual conversation of people preparing to travel to a Leprosy Mission centre, but for the past few years that's often been that conversation of Barry and Di Edwards as they plan another "Tastes of Thailand" tour.

It all began some ten years ago during a visit to Heather and Trevor Smith, friends of over sixty years, at the then "McKean Rehabilitation Centre." Di suggested they could bring a group from their own congregation to see firsthand what the Smiths had been doing since 1970 in Chiangmai, Thailand. The latest trip, held in early December 2018, consisted of eighteen people who flew in from all over Australia to give some simple support by painting, gardening, renovating a building, or even cooking an Aussie barbeque, as well as spending time learning of the day-to-day work of McKean and all that this entails.



Many of this latest group had not met until they all arrived in Chiangmai but it did not take long for them to become a very happy and cohesive group which worked together so well and came home intent on sharing the work at McKean with many others.

The reason for these trips is to not just to introduce people to the work of the Smiths but also travel to some other areas of Thailand where we can witness a different way of life and come in some way to understand the work Trevor and Heather have been doing for over nearly fifty years at McKean. The group shares in the worship at Chiangmai Community Church, visits the various craft villages and participates in a Thai Dinner and Cultural Show. But nothing can bring as much joy as visiting with residents of McKean's villages and wonderful Dok Kaew Gardens Assisted Living Facility.

Let's pray that the Tastes of Thailand trip will continue to spread awareness for this incredible project! We praise God for Heather, Trevor and all people associated with McKean for the mighty work they have done. We know that this work will continue to grow. To God be the Glory.

Contributed by Di Edwards.

March Your Daily Prayers

Friday, March 1

AUSTRALIA School is back in full swing now. Please pray for the schools which raise money for people affected by leprosy, and that God would raise up more schools willing to partner in this vital work.

Saturday, March 2

INDIA Advocacy is a major part of The Leprosy Mission Trust India's strategy. Thank God, and pray He would continue to guide The Leprosy Mission Trust India as they support people affected by leprosy in their fight for dignity and equality.

Sunday, March 3

NIGERIA Give thanks for Australian supporters who were able to help provide the Kuga community with a borehole. Praise God for how He enables blessing to be shared.

Monday, March 4

NIGERIA Give thanks for the hard work and initiative the Kuga Women's group has taken, not just for their own families, but to bless their community. Pray God would continue to bless their endeavours with success.

Tuesday, March 5

INDIA The Leprosy Mission has developed over 420 Champions (people affected by leprosy) around the country. They are in the forefront of the fight against leprosy. Please pray for their success, and that the Spirit will carry their voices far and wide.

Wednesday, March 6

AUSTRALIA Supa and Paul from The Leprosy Mission office are in England for fundraising workshops with various other Global Fellowship members. Please pray for applicable learning, and good fellowship.

» CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Thursday, March 7

INDIA Give praise the Supreme Court of India has directed central and state governments to implement a set of affirmative actions for ending stigma and promoting inclusion of people affected by leprosy. Please pray these directives will be carried out.

Friday, March 8

GLOBAL Today is International Women's Day. Give thanks for the many social, economic, cultural and political achievements women continue to make in the world. Pray that everyone will renew efforts to ensure full gender parity.

Saturday, March 9

GLOBAL Each year there is a fundraising workshop for countries in The Leprosy Mission Fellowship, held in England. Please pray there would be much helpful learning about how to effectively raise money to help stop leprosy.

Sunday, March 10

NEPAL Thank you to everyone who gave thanks for former nursing superintendent at Anandaban Hospital, Ms Niru Shrestha. The hospital has now appointed a new nursing superintendent. Please pray the new incumbent would experience much favour in her role.

Monday, March 11

GLOBAL Today is the IDEA International Day of Dignity and Respect. Please pray people affected by leprosy will receive their human rights, and more people will be aware of leprosy and want to make a difference.

Tuesday, March 12

GLOBAL The Leprosy Mission Fellowship continues to pursue research on how to best stop leprosy. Please pray for wisdom, and creativity for all those involved in this.

Wednesday, March 13

INDIA Often people affected by leprosy are marginalised and left out from the access to government social protection schemes. Pray for The Leprosy Mission Trust India as they seek equip them with knowledge and understating about their rights.

Thursday, March 14

PAPUA NEW GUINEA As the team in Papua New Guinea continue to roll out their microfinance program,

please pray the relationship they have with their partner organisation would continue to strengthen.

Friday, March 15

TIMOR LESTE Give thanks for the team's commitment to seeing God honoured in the work they do.

Saturday, March 16

INDIA The Leprosy Mission Trust India has an awareness campaign which partners with the Government of India and others. Please pray this will be a great success

Sunday, March 17

INDIA Praise God for The Leprosy Mission Trust India's media partners who show interest in the issue of leprosy. Please pray they will be able to continue to successfully partner together.

Monday, March 18

TIMOR LESTE As the board and staff receive training in leprosy, please pray they retain what they learn, and that it is easily applicable in the work they do.

Tuesday, March 19

TIMOR LESTE The team continue to undertake leprosy awareness seminars in different districts. Please pray for the success of these events, that they would raise awareness about leprosy.

Wednesday, March 20

GLOBAL Today is the International Day of Happiness. Please pray people affected by leprosy will know the joy of the Lord in their lives.

Thursday, March 21

AUSTRALIA As The Leprosy Mission Team head to Surrender Conference at Belgrave Heights in Victoria, please pray they would have many conversations which encourage people to think about how they can help people affected by leprosy.

Friday, March 22

GLOBAL Today is World Water Day, an opportunity to reflect on how we can reduce and reuse water. Pray that we will prioritise the sustainable management of our water resources, so that everyone can have free access to safe water.

Saturday, March 23

THAILAND March is the start of Heather and Trevor Smith's 50th year in Thailand! Give thanks for their long service for others.

Sunday, March 24

GLOBAL Today is the International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims. Please pray for Human Rights for people affected by leprosy, and that advocacy groups like IDEA would be successful in their work to reduce stigma, and discriminatory laws.

Monday, March 25

NIGERIA Give thanks for Shehu and Ramata's faithful work in Nigeria (see inside KIT03). Please pray God would continue to bless and protect them.

Tuesday, March 26

NIGERIA Give thanks for The Leprosy Mission Clinic in Gusau, and how it is helping people like Rukkaiya receive healing (back page KIT03). Please pray they would have access to the support needed to continue their work.

Wednesday, March 27

NIGERIA Pray for Rukkaiya and her family. Pray she and her family would have a safe place to live. Please pray her ulcer will heal completely.

Thursday, March 28

INDIA The Leprosy Mission Trust India carries out social media campaigns to make people aware of leprosy. Pray these campaigns would raise awareness and have an impact.

Friday, March 29

THAILAND Give thanks for the successful supporters' tour and how they were able to see and experience the work in Thailand. Please pray they will continue to encourage others with their experience of the work in Thailand.

Saturday, March 30

NEPAL The team in Nepal regularly undertakes capacity building training. Please pray this would help build sustainable leprosy expertise in Nepal.

Saturday, March 31

GLOBAL Give thanks for those who have held World Leprosy Day events across the globe to raise awareness about those affected by leprosy. Pray for those who are holding World Leprosy Sunday events in Australia that they would be successful.