



Update

Achieving dignified and independent lives Help them to stand



The Leprosy Mission's Orthopaedic Workshop in Chanchaga, Nigeria does just that – it helps people to stand, by providing high-quality orthopaedic devices for those affected by leprosy and other disabilities. In fact, it achieves much more than that.

The project, near Minna, capital city of Niger State, serves an area where poverty is widespread. Pavements and smooth road surfaces are rare, and potholes are much more the norm, so the workshop provides a vital service. Without it many people would be confined in their homes.

The workshop supplies and fits mobility aids, such as protective footwear, specialist shoes, ankle braces, splints, wheelchairs, arm pedal cycles and much more. This prevents further injury or deterioration, and allows people with impairments to aspire to the dignity of an independent life.

A disability survey in 2005 revealed that there are only five workshops in the whole of Nigeria, serving a population of 130 million people. Chanchaga Workshop is the only one in Niger State. Its work reaches further afield, supporting four more shoe workshops with much-needed expertise and advice, and training other technicians to make and fit additional orthopaedic devices.

That's why The Leprosy Mission is investing in the future of the Orthopaedic Workshop at Chanchaga, working to make structural renovations to the buildings and investing in staff recruitment and training.



Three people happy with their prosthetic limbs and able to walk again



Our vision is for all people affected by leprosy in Niger State and beyond to play a full part in community life. Please consider a gift today to support this life-enhancing work.

Please support The Leprosy Mission. To make a donation call 01733 370505.

News

World Leprosy Day 2012 – 29 January

Please join with us as we celebrate World Leprosy Day with more than 100 countries around the world. We feature Mozambique this year and promotional materials will be made available from November.



Call 01733 370505, or email post@tlmew.org.uk for your free resource pack or visit www.worldleprosyday.org.uk



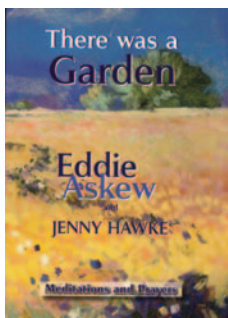
It is less than one year to go to the Festival of Flowers at Southwark Cathedral from 23-26 August.

Tickets will be available from January 2012, with further details in January's *New Day*.

If you would like to take part as a volunteer, please contact **Marilyn Gregory** mari.gregory@ntlworld.com **Tel: 0161 427 3309**

New book

Started by Eddie Askew and completed by his daughter, Jenny Hawke, this new book explores the Word of God through gardens in the Bible. Available from TLM Trading at www.tlmtrading.com



Thank you so much!



Rameshwa (left), the ten year old boy whose story was told for World Leprosy Day, has now had two operations on his clawed hands at Naini hospital

Through your abundant generosity we exceeded our January 2011 target of £80,000 by an amazing £5,511 in support of Naini hospital's transforming work. Naini hospital, which was the focus of World Leprosy Day, performed 370 reconstructive surgeries in 2010, restoring use to hands, feet and eyes, and reducing stigma.

At Easter, we described the life-changing work of Anandaban hospital in Nepal, sharing a little about the life of Alisha*, whose husband rejected her and married another woman. Here, a single counsellor works hard to bring emotional healing to those whose lives have been shattered by a diagnosis of leprosy. Helping people to confront and overcome feelings of shame, isolation and rejection is time-consuming, sensitive work. In 2010, 320 people were supported in this way through individual appointments, group discussions, bible study fellowships and – where necessary – home visits. This healing ministry was also made possible by your kindness.

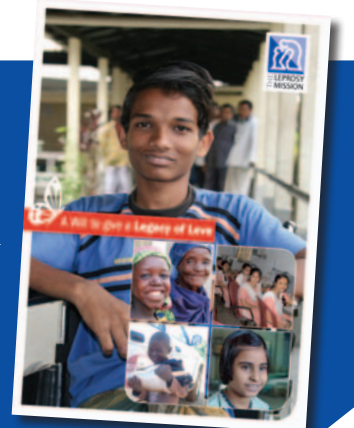


*name has been changed

Legacy of Love

Our new legacy booklet 'A Will to give a Legacy of Love' contains information for preparing wills, a leaflet to record personal wishes for family and a DVD narrated by Wendy Craig promoting our work.

Please tick the box on the response form to order your free copy.



Visit The Leprosy Mission's website at www.leprosymission.org.uk

Exciting launch of new Gifts for Life

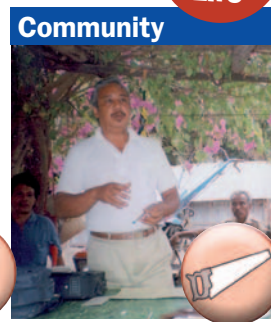
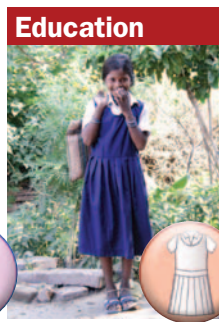
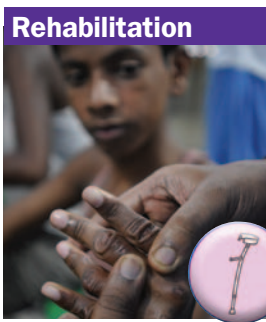
Following the success of our last range of gifts, we are pleased to announce new gifts sitting alongside some of the favourites. It is often difficult to find an appropriate gift for a birthday or anniversary for a friend or loved one, and with Christmas approaching our thoughts will soon be turning to suitable gifts. So, if you are unsure what to buy how about one of our Gifts for Life?

They range in price from £10 to £800. You can buy a physiotherapy or counselling session, hospital sheets and clothes or school equipment for £10. A gift to restore someone's sight is amazing value at £35. A very popular gift at £10 is the specialised footwear to protect feet that feel no pain.

We have offered this type of gift for a few years and have found the response heartening. From groups and churches who have had coffee mornings and other events to buy a house, to individuals who buy a gift for a friend, your support for The Leprosy Mission's work has grown and become invaluable.

The full range is available from our website at www.tlmgiftsforlife.com or from the Trading catalogue – see opposite for details.

**NEW
Gifts for
Life**



The Leprosy Mission Trading are pleased to announce that their Autumn-Winter 2011 catalogue is out now. It boasts a range of gift ideas for all the family, a wonderful selection of Christmas cards, exclusive Eddie Askew books and many Christmas treats and gifts under £6.

To request your catalogue please phone 0845 166 2253 or visit www.tlmtrading.com

You can also contact us at enquiries@tlmtrading.com

Charan's story

Charan and her family were not aware of leprosy and her local doctor failed to identify it.

When diagnosed fifteen years ago, she had slightly clawed hands, a shortened index finger and sensation loss. Charan felt the pain of rejection by her husband and in-laws, and separation from her three children. Other villagers, and even her own family, shunned her.

Charan moved to a leprosy colony in Champa, living alone in a small hut. At the age of 30 she faced the daunting task of rebuilding her life. The only employment she could find to support herself was as a stone worker, breaking large stones into small pieces for construction work. It's hard to think of anything less suitable for someone with Charan's disabilities. When Champa Vocational Training Centre started up a seri-culture course they offered her a place. After a year's training she began work, boiling and winding cocoons, and weaving. Self-care was impossible in her former job, but now her daily routine includes checking for ulcers and keeping her hands and feet clean and moisturised. She has been re-housed, met a fellow ex-VTC student whom she married, and enjoys financial stability, looking forward to a pension when she retires.



Charan enjoys her working conditions and is thankful that her job allows her time to look after her desensitised hands and feet

To enjoy your work and accept your lot in life – this is indeed a gift from God.

**New Living Translation
Ecclesiastes 5:19**

Please support The Leprosy Mission. To make a donation call 01733 370505.

First comes healing ... then, at Champa, hope for the future

It is sometimes easy to take for granted the choices and opportunities we access through education and training.

However, for many from leprosy-affected families, finding a suitable and sustainable livelihood can present a huge challenge, especially to those living in rural, impoverished areas in India. Old, mistaken beliefs endure, and leprosy can be viewed as a matter of shame and dishonour, long after it has been cured. Employers are often reluctant to offer jobs to anyone known to be associated with the disease, and workers may refuse to work alongside them. Without help, many fall deeper into the grasp of poverty.

The Leprosy Mission is fighting to overcome this situation through its Vocational Training Centres (VTCs). The VTC in Champa, Chhattisgarh State offers training to those who feel hopeless and cast out. It provides courses for people affected by leprosy, such as computing, diesel mechanics and sericulture (silk production) lasting between two months and two years, depending on the course.

But the VTC at Champa does so much more than teaching skills for a stable future and financial security. What makes it so special and vital is that it embraces all of a person's needs. Pride and self-respect are restored through the provision of uniforms and materials. Self-care of desensitised hands, feet and eyes forms a central part of the training, helping to ensure future good health. At the end of the course, each student is helped to find employment, or receives a loan to set up in business.



Diesel mechanics students with their pastor and tutor



Gates of Hope for those affected by leprosy in Chhattisgarh



Computing students receiving instruction

It costs just £40 to provide for a student for one month; a small price for the riches of opportunity and independence.

The support offered by the VTC at Champa is life-changing. Will you help us to give more people the tools they need to achieve a dignified, independent life?



The Leprosy Mission is an international Christian development organisation, transforming and empowering the lives of people affected by leprosy. Our goal is to eliminate the causes and consequences of this disease.

The Leprosy Mission England, Wales, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man
Goldhay Way, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 5GZ

Tel: 01733 370505 Fax: 01733 404880 Email: post@tlmew.org.uk

www.leprosymission.org.uk Registered charity no. 1050327

A company limited by guarantee registered in England no. 3140347

National Director: Peter Walker

Editor: Barbara Robinson

Designed by: Design Partners Creative Ltd, Peterborough

Printed by: KJS, Peterborough

Photographs used with kind permission of Georgina Cranston, Peter Lemieux, Catherine Goldsmid and Leprosy Mission staff and supporters.

Update is published twice a year.

Please contact us for permission to reprint an article.



 give with confidence

Please support The Leprosy Mission. To make a donation call 01733 370505