



India Newsletter

Carrying Christ's compassion to the unwanted and unreached



Eare Ministries in partnership with OEW

Dear Friends,

I recently returned from a very special trip to India over Christmas and New Year. Travelling on my own, I stayed in the home of Bishop Sudheer Kumar and his family.

It was a time of blessing to see God at work among the very poorest people in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa.

Hundreds of people were brought from darkness into the light of Jesus Christ and I saw many people healed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

In spite of many problems

and opposition which were overcome by God's grace, we were enabled to do a great work in the name of Jesus Christ.

We showed God's love by giving new clothes to more than 2,000 poor people, and feeding more than 5,000 poor and destitute people, widows and children at this Christmas season.

Four orphan homes were visited to celebrate Christmas with the children.

Three young prostitutes were released from bondage.

Christmas celebrations in 17 communities were great fun and an opportunity to preach the meaning of Christmas, as well as giving out cake and presents!

Three water wells were dedicated in very poor communities - another opportunity to preach the love of Christ.

As you read this newsletter, please listen to what God is saying to YOU.

Hazel Bech

Founder OEW

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Houses for a Dalit Village

On New Year's Day I went to a dalit village, Inavolu, to distribute clothes and food and to encourage the people.

It is far from the town and the people are very poor indeed. Working for a pittance in the fields, they live in wretched tumbledown straw huts badly damaged during the recent flooding of the area.

I was very concerned to see 23 uncompleted cement houses with no roofs; the 1st phase of a government housing project.

The govt. pays £900 towards each house. The beneficiary has to supply the balance to complete it.

The condition of the people is miserable. They suffer with the cold and wet as well as being fearful of snakes and scorpions. Their caste is dalit, poorest of the poor, untouchables - not in any position to find the money themselves. But what they will do is the construction work.

If phase 1 is not completed by March 2010, the govt. will cancel it ; and also phase 2 - the remaining 25 houses needed.

If God provides £250 x 23 for building materials work can commence.

If we do not help, who will?



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"I took them all Christmas shopping.."

Our Orphan Home for Dalit Children

On Eagles Wings has been supporting this little home for orphans since 2006.

These children get very little in the way of treats and new things – so I took them all Christmas shopping for new clothes. What fun it was for them to choose something for themselves and the delight on their faces was a joy to behold.

Then we had lunch together and cut a big Christmas cake with candles on it.

We can only give regular

financial support through the generosity of our sponsors. At the moment about half the children have sponsors. We try and make up the rest as best we can. With God's grace, we have not let them down so far.

We are still looking for people willing to support the home with even a small regular monthly amount.

Without our help these kids would have no future at all. With it, they receive love, care and schooling.



Clean Drinking Water

Clean, safe drinking water is an impossible dream for more than 480 million people in rural India. Thousands die from water borne diseases every single day! 90% of infectious diseases are caused by polluted water.

In Indian villages, women walk long distances, up to 4 hours per day collecting water. This is often from muddy rivers and stagnant ponds because well owners chase them away as they are low caste or 'untouchable'.

EARE Ministries helps by drilling water wells in needy villages. Once the wells are in place, they are dedicated in the name of Jesus for all to use. One well costs £500 and can give fresh, clean drinking water to 500 families.

Over Christmas time I had the joy to dedicate 3 new wells in different villages, sponsored by two churches and one individual donor.

Many more wells are needed and the waiting list is long.



Operational Support

OEW is committed to helping EARE with the practicalities of running a big ministry by faith.

On this visit I was able to purchase a badly needed set of tyres for their minibus and also a second hand motor scooter for a pastor who has

two churches, some distance apart, to look after. His old bicycle had fallen to bits.

OEW is also hoping to support the salaries of five key staff at EARE HQ.

These are essential to enable the operation to run effectively



Visit to Blind Children in Orissa State

The Christians in Orissa State have suffered dreadful persecution and atrocities in the past year or so. Many were tortured and killed, others driven out of their homes into the forests. EARE has been helping with relief supplies since then.

We went in a small team to visit them and celebrate Christmas. It was an 11 hour train ride. As soon as I got off the train I sensed the oppressiveness of the place. It was dark in more than one sense!

Our destination was the Christian school for blind children. The welcome was wonderful and I was very impressed with the director of this school, who is visually

impaired himself. He had invited other very poor blind people from the community to be with us that evening.

There are 60 blind girls in this home with 21 staff to care for them. They are gorgeous kids and very open and energetic.

One teenage girl gave a beautiful gospel message in English. A very small girl prayed for everyone in English and a group of them did an intricate dance for us.

We had a big Christmas cake and gifts for them all. Then we served them with a meal which they demolished with relish.

While they were eating, we were taken down the road to see the new Bible School that

the director is establishing. It will train sighted and blind pastors and evangelists to go out and preach the gospel.

Blindness is very common in Orissa apparently. They informed me that of the 10.5 million visually impaired people in India as a whole, half are in Orissa State!

The situation of blind people is "very sorrowful and miserable". Most are rejected and neglected by society and their own families. The girls are particularly at risk. Many are sold or killed at birth. The boys survive because they can 'work' as beggars. It is horrific.

Please pray for this school.



Day Centre for Yanadi (Scavenger) Children

We celebrated a community Christmas with the Yanadi people in Ratnalcheruvu. These people work as scavengers, garbage collectors, bird and snake hunters. As a place to live, it really does not get much worse than this.

We distributed blankets, saris and dhotis to 500 poor people on that day. In addition we distributed biriyani food packets to 700 people. This had been cooked and packed in foil dishes back at the EARE HQ. The people were so joyful to hear the good news of Jesus and to receive their gifts and food.

There is a big need in this village for a day centre for the children. They are left to their own devices during the day while the parents are out

scavenging because there is no school for them.

Sudheer has a vision to provide day care for 30 children (to begin with) in a nearby church building which is not otherwise used during the day.

The children will receive breakfast and a midday meal each day.

A teacher will be there to give a basic education and they would be cared for properly until the parents return.

We are praying for the means to do this. It will take £10 per month per child.

Please pray with us for the Yanadi Day Centre to be established this year.



"As a place to live, it really does not get much worse than this."



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OEW Leprosy Project

We celebrated Christmas with the leprosy community where OEW supports a medical clinic.

The doctor was presented with a package of sterile dressings, a gift from a podiatrist in Linlithgow.

I distributed blankets and clothes to the people and shared God's love with them.

Then we had a fellowship mercy meal with them, serving them and eating with them.



On Eagles Wings reaching the nations with love and compassion

We show the compassion of Jesus to needy, hurting people in this world and meet their practical, spiritual and physical needs.

A close relationship with our partner ministries ensures

good stewardship of donor funds. One hundred percent of donated money is sent out to the relevant project.

Nothing is deducted for administration. We follow everything up personally.

Bishop Sudheer Kumar and

his wife will be visiting Scotland in May and will be speaking in different churches.

Please pray for all the arrangements for this visit.

Hazel Bech

Donations: Please complete as appropriate.

Forename: Surname:

Address:

Postcode: Telephone:

Email:

I'd like (Please "tick" as appropriate)

- To make a donation to On Eagles Wings for the work in India
- To pay a regular donation by standing order (Please send me a form).

Donated amount enclosed: £

Boost your contribution by 28% for free with Gift Aid!

We can reclaim tax on your donation provided this doesn't exceed the amount of income or capital gains tax you pay in the tax year. This means an extra 28p for each pound you donate!

- I want On Eagles Wings to treat this and any future donations (until I notify you otherwise) as Gift Aid donations. Please "tick" the box.

Signature

Date