

A photograph of two women standing in front of a doorway. The woman on the left is older, with a weathered face, wearing a yellow and blue patterned sari over a grey top. She is smiling warmly. The woman on the right is younger, wearing a green and white checkered sari over a white top with black circular patterns. She has her arm around the older woman's shoulder. The background shows a doorway with a red and white striped curtain and a small religious icon on the wall.

STRONGER TOGETHER

IMPACT REPORT 2019/20

Australian Churches of Christ
Global Mission Partners



Cover Image: Women from Prakash
Tekadi Slum, Mumbai, India

Above: Chelkou Church of Christ,
South Sudan

Contents

What a Year!	4
Your Impact this Year	6
Stronger Together: Address from the Executive Officer and Board Chair	8
Highlights and Challenges	10
Our Partners Around the World	12
International Church Partnerships (ICP)	14
We Need Each Other	16
Your Impact this Year	17
ICP Partners and Projects	18
ICP Associate Partners	21
Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA)	22
Living Day By Day	24
Your Impact this Year	25
COCOA Report	26
COCOA Partners and Projects	27
COCOA Associate Partners	31
Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA)	32
New Directions, Ancient Pathways	34
Your Impact this Year	35
IMA Partner Highlights	36
Other IMA Highlights	37
embody	38
Active Change Makers	40
Your Impact this Year	41
People & Programs	42
Partner Visits	44
People in Mission	45
Emergency & Welfare Programs	46
Your Impact this Year	47
Meet the Team	48
Board Members	49
Financial Report	50
Finances at a Glance	52
Breakdown by Country	53
Financial Statements	54
Independent Audit Report	56
Thank you!	58

WHAT A YEAR! YOUR IMPACT IS WORTH CELEBRATING

Every year, your impact is worth celebrating! Your generosity changes the lives of many, and makes a difference to people in need. Read on for a small selection of important highlights you've helped achieve.



Image: Worship at Lautoka Church, Fiji

YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR



This year you've helped make possible:

International Church Partnerships in **11** Countries

International Development Partnerships in **7** Countries

8 Indigenous ministry projects in Australia

320 people involved in embody campaigns

MEET SUVARNA

VOCATIONAL TRAINING GAVE HER VITAL SKILLS TO START A BUSINESS

When Suvarna was a young girl, her father tragically passed away. Her mother didn't make enough money to take care of Suvarna and her two younger sisters. So Suvarna made a hard decision. She sacrificed her schooling to earn money to help her family.

She started working with her mother, but it wasn't easy to find stable work. They took short-term work whenever they could find it. In the monsoon season, they worked pulling weeds. In the autumn, they harvested soybeans and cotton. This is physically demanding work, especially for a young woman like Suvarna.

She dreamed of going to school, but she knew that her family could not afford it. So, she worked hard, wanting to ensure that her sisters could go to school instead.

Then Lasina Vocational School brought their tailoring course to Suvarna's village. Thanks to supporters like you, Hosanna Ministries have mobilised their vocational training, taking equipment to small villages to train people like Suvarna!

Thanks to the financial support from COCOA, Suvarna was able to undertake the tailoring course. She applied and was selected, and was able to complete the course — giving her the skills she needs to set up her own business sewing clothes!

Suvarna says, "I had never imagined that Tailoring Training would be available in my own village and that I would get any chance of admission due to poverty and casteism. But I thank the Lord and GMP for this wonderful gift of tailoring classes to our village."

The Vocational Training programs in Lasina and Ambernath are helping lots of young people just like Suvarna. Over the last year, 40 young women have completed a tailoring course, and now have the skills to work and earn a dignified income. A total of 25 young people have completed the government accredited computer course, creating a pathway to better jobs or higher education.



"I had never imagined that Tailoring Training would be available in my own village... But I thank the Lord and GMP for this wonderful gift of tailoring classes to our village."

The support people such as you give to COCOA helps empower young people like Suvarna. Without your help, the Vocational Training program would not be able to provide underprivileged youth and women the opportunity to gain skills, confidence, self-respect, and the ability to earn a better income.

Now Suvarna has completed her classes, she is planning on opening her own tailoring business. She will be able to earn more money, easing her mother's workload. Her sisters will be able to remain in school.

STRONGER TOGETHER

ADDRESS FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND BOARD CHAIR

Our environment is subject to rapid and unanticipated change. These fast changes, and their impact on us, requires a new level of responsiveness which can result in anxiety concerning the future. It is our faith in Jesus Christ that sustains and guides the work of Global Mission Partners (GMP) in the midst of these turbulent times. This means our confidence in our ministry on your behalf is firmly placed in the grace and goodness of God.

GMP continues in partnership with communities in Australia and around the world. We have close and good relationships with our partners – we know them and they know us. Our concern for each of them has been great in the past months, especially through the COVID-19 pandemic, the ensuing economic repercussions and our inability to visit them in person.

The impact of COVID-19 has been dramatic in many of these communities and all of them have levels of vulnerability that are different to our own. Poor health systems and – in some countries – governments more interested in themselves than their people, leads to heightened levels of vulnerability.

Because of these concerns, GMP is supporting the Micah Australia-led campaign – ‘End COVID for All’. This initiative brings together Micah, the Campaign for Australian Aid and the Australian Council for International Development. We share a vision of a world where the vulnerable are cared for, advocated for and protected.

GMP brings to this complex season its long history in mission of over 125 years of activity. During this time there has been the Great Depression, World Wars, the Spanish Flu pandemic and many other destabilising global events. GMP has experienced the pressures of these particular events. There have been times when resources were not sufficient for the work that needed to be done. Yet, through it all, there was an abiding level of resilience and hope based on a deep trust in the guidance and goodness of God, and the support of His people.

New challenges are coming on several levels, both nationally and internationally. The changing global environment is creating new polarities and alliances in and between nations. There is disappointment about the very low level of the Australian Aid program.

There are changes in the sense of identity of local Churches of Christ congregations, and uncertainty about the impact of COVID-19 on church life. The value of GMP’s investments has plummeted. These challenges need to be resolutely faced and, where needed, challenged.

GMP has, in the past year, been accepted into the National Redress Scheme. We have opted in on behalf of the former Australian Churches of Christ Indigenous Ministry Inc (ACCIM). This decision, and the work of responding to applications, is a step towards healing the pain of people hurt and harmed.

The response of the GMP Board to these complex environments is partly seen in the decision to focus the first stage of the new GMP Strategic Plan on two key priorities: sustainability and community. Sustainability is clearly critical to the ministry of GMP – both operationally and financially. Community is an invitation to build with our partners and supporters a sense that mission is important and something we do together that creates and sustains relationships as we grow in our appreciation of each other. This appreciation takes us beyond being donors and recipients and into a deeper experience of being part of God’s family.

Guiding the plan is a clear sense of purpose, that of ‘Transforming lives through partnership’ and a reference point of ‘We know the locals and they know us’. When we plan and set directions, we can check that what we do is making these statements real. We want to see lives transformed in every way and to make sure it is happening through relational partnerships.

In all that GMP undertakes we cannot do what we do without the generous support of people and local churches in Australia. Additionally, GMP is well served by our directors who form the Board and our enthusiastic and engaged staff. It is good to see community made real in this way. GMP is committed to charting a course into God’s future and mission with your help and support.

Barrie Yesberg *John Gilmore*

Barrie Yesberg
Board Chair

John Gilmore
Executive Officer



A child from Emmanuel Childcare Centre who benefited from food packets distributed by Hosanna Ministries, Mumbai, India

YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR HELPING BUILD RESILIENCE AGAINST COVID-19

Your ongoing partnership and support this year has enabled our partners to respond, and build resilience against COVID-19. Your support has helped:

Support families by providing **food packets** during the lock down in India



Provide **emergency supplies** to internally displaced people, day workers and people with day-to-day incomes in South Sudan & Bangladesh



Vocational students in India begin sewing face masks with our partners buying them and providing them to vulnerable slum communities



Encourage the set up of 'tippy taps' in Zimbabwe to improve handwashing and hygiene



Distribute **37 Essentials Packs** to Indigenous Australians affected by COVID-19



Add COVID precautions to workshops in Vanuatu and Zimbabwe





HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES

This will be a year identified by one unanticipated reality – COVID-19. We began the financial year with a commitment to finalising a new Strategic Plan and with a confidence that the future had some levels of certainty to it. What changes we have experienced since February!

GMP has focused on ensuring that our partners in Australia and overseas know of our care and support. We have done this by being intentional in reaching out to our partners and doing all we can to maintain communication with them. We have mapped the progress and impact of the virus on their community and people. What has been revealed contrasts with the situation in Australia.

In several of our partner settings there is less ability for people to maintain social distancing, little government assistance and health systems that were overwhelmed even before the impact of the virus.

One outcome has been the unifying reality that we are all in this together. There has been a strong unity knowing that what is being faced in one country is being faced in another. Time and again our partners have told us that they are praying for us.

What this means for our future work remains uncertain. At the moment we are sustaining activities and developing ways to monitor and evaluate what is being done through use of a variety of communication pathways.

The GMP Board has finalised the new GMP Strategic Map and Plan. The strategic reference point is 'Life-Changing Partnerships'. We are engaged in this work to ensure that all of our actions are directed to changing lives for the better – physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Our intent is summed up in the guiding statement 'We know the locals – and they know us'. We are in a two-way relationship seeking intentional community.

This means that our work with our partners in Australia and overseas has a strong dimension of an active two-way partnership through which the formal process of working together takes place. For example, we do not use words like 'funder' and 'recipient'.

This understanding of deep partnership is also the way we think about our supporters and generous donors.

We deeply appreciate you all and seek to maintain a dynamic two-way partnership. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that one of our critical points of focus in the strategic plan is 'Community'. We are exploring new ways to build community with partners, churches in Australia, our supporters, Board and staff.

A second critical point of focus in the plan is 'Sustainability'. GMP must remain viable in both mission and financial terms. As you will note, GMP has faced what has been faced by many others, with the sudden and unanticipated decline in the value of our investments. The GMP Board has mandated a GMP Review Group that is focusing its work on sustainability and our future activity.

In recent years GMP has also been unavoidably drawn into the challenge and complexity of increased compliance. This is time-consuming and costly in staff time. Part of this compliance includes the management of risk. During the year the GMP Risk Register and Matrix was completely reviewed and restructured. Without ensuring our compliance with the various standards, and taking into account matters such as risk, we cannot continue to operate with high standards and our partners would be without support.

Other highlights for the year included the visit of BJ and Chipu Mpofu in September and October 2019, the continued investment of GMP in our Marketing and Communication program, the ongoing success of Safe Water September, and the encouraging response to Walk for Hope which occurred at the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdown.

During the 2019-2020 Financial Year the GMP Board also established a wholly-owned subsidiary company called GMP Extend Ltd. This new entity is a registered charity and has Deductible Gift Recipient status. It is compliant with the ACNC External Conduct Standards and has been established to assist Australian Churches of Christ with approved overseas activities, to respond to emergency situations such as the recent bushfires (\$143,000 was given and distributed through local churches and other agencies), and support of approved Indigenous activities. This is an exciting new dimension to the work of GMP as a whole.

Some Partner Highlights

At the end of the last financial year we received the properties used by the South Hedland Aboriginal Fellowship from Churches of Christ in Western Australia. Significant maintenance has been undertaken and the church is being well used.

Another positive step was taken at the Tjilgamooda Church of Christ, located near Ceduna. After many years of discussion, a toilet block for men and women was constructed and handed over in July 2019.

During the year the GMP Board welcomed as a formal partner the International Christian College of Manila. Rod Cousins (GMP Board member) and John Gilmore visited and reported back to the GMP Board, and a formal partnership has been entered into. The steps being taken to make this partnership more real have been hampered by the impact of COVID-19 in Manila as the college program transitions to online lecturing.

As part of ensuring the strength of Indigenous Ministry Australia (IMA) we are in the midst of a review process. This review is considering what has been achieved in the years since the establishment of IMA and will explore future directions for IMA. Part of the background to this review is the reality of the National Redress Scheme.

GMP was recognised as part of the National Redress Scheme, and signed a MOU in March 2020. Since then, we have been responding to applications for Redress arising out of the care of Aboriginal children in Western Australia. As part of this work, GMP will be calling a special company meeting and are making an initial provision of a liability of \$1,000,000 towards the costs of Redress.

Staff and Volunteers

All that is done through GMP is the result of teamwork. GMP has strong and gifted staff that serve our international and Australian partners. No one person is more important than any other. Roles are developed strategically and are filled by those we know who will make a difference in our mission. Change in our staff happens from time to time and in this past year we farewelled Natalie Oakes after five years leading the embody activities in GMP, including overseeing Safe Water September's best year on record in 2019. Thank you and well done, Nat! Mitch Salmon is now the embody National Coordinator and we remain committed to the future of embody.

Lauren Butler in her role as GMP's writer concluded after two years working part-time with the Comms team. Her role has been filled by Zach Blackmore.

GMP is also reliant on a range of volunteers. Jenny Baker has for many, many years led the card sales in South Australia and has raised funds for GMP through visits to churches and events. Jenny retired from the role at the end of June 2020 and the card ministry has come to an end. We also appreciate the volunteers in each state who work with us. The largest team is the group in Adelaide that assist with regular GMP mailouts. Others work with and support GMP through the Board, Committees and Reference Groups, providing hospitality and in other ways. Thank you for your partnership.

GMP and COVID-19

The impact of COVID-19 has been felt by us all. The coronavirus was on us without warning, took us by surprise, and continues to have an unpredictable influence on our work in Australia and overseas.

The GMP Board is assessing this impact and the changes in the ways we can communicate with local churches in Australia, as well as how we monitor and support our partners in situations of great vulnerability.

What we do know is that there is an impact on our levels of income and a further risk about what we can sustain. We continue to review our operations, staffing and programs and place a priority on our partners and their work.

GMP and the National Redress Scheme

GMP opted into the National Redress Scheme on behalf of the former Churches of Christ Western Australian Aboriginal Mission settings. This is an important area of activity and is involving more work than anticipated. The GMP Board, in conversation with the Council of Churches of Christ in Australia, is managing the response to Redress applications that are being received. In consultation with the GMP Auditor, we are providing for a liability of \$1,000,000 for anticipated Redress payments in addition to the invoiced amount of \$573,400 for payments made. Our prayer is that this scheme brings healing and peace to those who have been hurt and harmed.

OUR PARTNERS AROUND THE WORLD



- International Church Partnerships (ICP) Projects
- Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA) Projects
- Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA) Projects
- embody Communities



Australia
Projects: IMA, embody
Areas of work: Indigenous Ministry and embody campaigns



India
Projects: ICP, COCOA
Areas of work: Church partnership and welfare programs (ICP); livelihoods, schooling, health care (COCOA)



Bangladesh
Projects: ICP, COCOA
Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP); sanitation, schooling, livelihoods (COCOA)



Indonesia
Projects: ICP
Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP)



Philippines
Projects: ICP
Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP)



Vanuatu
Projects: ICP, COCOA
Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP); community development, disaster risk reduction (COCOA)



South Sudan
Projects: ICP, COCOA
Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP); schooling, livelihoods (COCOA)



Vietnam
Projects: ICP, COCOA
Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP); livelihoods, sanitation (COCOA)




Fiji
Projects: ICP
Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP)



Papua New Guinea
Projects: ICP
Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP)



Thailand
Projects: ICP, COCOA
Areas of work: Church leadership and development (ICP); livelihoods (COCOA)



Zimbabwe
Projects: ICP, COCOA
Areas of work: Church and leadership development, supporting evangelists (ICP); vulnerable children, safe water (COCOA)

CONNECTING CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD

INTERNATIONAL CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS

International Church Partnerships (ICP) focused on partnering with the global church by supporting our international church partners in their mission commitment.

We do this by connecting Australian people and churches to those across the nations so that we can support, encourage and resource the work of the gospel in Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, South Sudan, Thailand, Vanuatu, Vietnam and Zimbabwe.



MEET MELANIE

Melanie was studying at university when she found out she was pregnant. Immediately, she was scared. She was not married to her partner, and she didn't know how people would react. She knew there were limited opportunities for single mothers in Fiji. It was going to be difficult for her. Abandoned by her partner and her family, she was forced to move away from home. Melanie was in the darkness, and could not see the light. However, she was determined to

find a place where she and her child could be safe. That's when she found the Lautoka Church and started going to services there. Pastor David and his wife, Christy, took Melanie in. She lived with them, and they became trusted friends – almost like parents to her. They helped her figure out how she would take care of her baby. When she accepted Jesus Christ, she gained hope and confidence too. She had found more than a church — she had found a family!



Members of Lomowai Church, near Sigatoka, Fiji

WE NEED EACH OTHER

This year, especially these past six months, have emphasised the importance of Paul's imagery of the Body of Christ.

In these strange, troubling and, in places, downright tragic times, we at GMP have been reminded of the need we have for each other. As COVID-19 shook the foundations of societies around the globe in different ways, degrees and at different times, we again realised that we are deeply interconnected: the body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12). GMP has been through global crises before – the Spanish Flu, the Great Depression, World Wars, and the Global Financial Crisis, to name a few. We have emerged through these only because of the strength of our partnerships with our international partners, the State Conferences and our local churches and supporters. This crisis is different, but these partnerships have again come to the fore. We are stronger together.

It is appropriate at this time to say 'thank you' for the commitment you have shown to the work of GMP through International Church Partnerships (ICP). Through your giving, your encouraging words and your prayers, you have helped ICP make budget and make a difference. This means churches are supported, leaders trained, and people introduced to Jesus and formed in ways that make them disciples. Make no mistake, you have been a major reason why this has happened. Without you, none of this happens. We are extremely grateful, as are our international partners. In these difficult times, your support sheds light on what generosity can do.

ICP is a long-standing part of GMP's work. In all of our partner countries, we are committed to the key foci of church planting, evangelism, discipleship and training leaders. Be that in our newest partnership of training church leaders in the Philippines through the International Christian College of Manila (ICCM), or through more established partnerships that can be traced back to the earliest days of GMP in India and Vanuatu. By focusing on those previously mentioned characteristics of ICP, it gives us an unshakeable core with an ability to adapt as needed. The churches ICP partners with come in different shapes, from rural Fiji to the house churches in the built-up environment of Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam), to the remote church settings outside of Bulawayo (Zimbabwe) and the lush hills of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (Bangladesh). Evangelism is practiced in different ways in communist Vietnam, Christian Papua New Guinea, Buddhist Thailand and Muslim Indonesia.

Yet, for all these differences – ICP partners with people on the ground to resource culturally appropriate training, evangelism, discipleship and church planting. Your support directly enables these programs to occur. We are stronger together. Your support of ICP enables lives to be transformed all across the globe. You are building a stronger, more resilient church reaching out to those around them.

YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

MEET FERIUS

When Ferius started his mission to the people of Sulawesi, he knew that the bulk of the population is Muslim. When greeting them, the first question he was asked was, "What religion do you believe?" Answering honestly about his Christian faith was met with a cold response. But Ferius knew that he had to try and be a light to this community. Ferius was not discouraged. He decided the best way to connect with people was to work hard with a genuine heart. So, he met with another CCTSI alumni, who grows coffee in Sulawesi, and started working hard, selling coffee in the community. Hery, Academic Dean of CCTSI, says of Ferius, "Since then he starts making a connection with people, and more and more people; they love him because he is diligent and works as 'a good servant' for them. They didn't prejudice him anymore." Eventually, people started to ask him: What is the Bible like? And who is Jesus? "He keeps telling them that Jesus changed his life from an introvert with low self-esteem, to a new man who is always positive in life. Ferius is showing an example by having a heart of giving, the heart of loving,



"Ferius is showing an example by having a heart of giving, the heart of loving, a heart of sacrificing for others."

a heart of sacrificing for others." Ferius has shared the light of Jesus to many, and they go on to share it with their friends and family!

This year you helped ICP projects achieve:

Church Partnerships in **11** Countries

35 leaders trained at Christian Church Theological School of Indonesia

In Fiji supporting:

3 churches

Seeing **30** new converts & **14** baptisms

At Christian Church Theological School of Indonesia (CCTSI)

40 people were baptised

10 students graduated

& **3** churches were planted

LIFE-CHANGING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CHURCHES OF CHRIST OVERSEAS AID

Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA) is the international community development program of Global Mission Partners. Our vision is to see our partners resourced and equipped to pursue their own aspirations and be agents of change in their own communities.

Image: Children washing hands at Nasawa, Maewo, Vanuatu



Supported by the Australian Government.



MEET ROSA

Water is happiness and harmony in Baravet Village on Pentecost Island, Vanuatu. Rosa used to walk a long way down the hill each day for water – no simple task with a baby and toddler in tow. Now she gets clean water via a short walk to the new reserve tank.

The people of Baravet chose the upgrading of the water supply as their community project because the existing water tank was tiny. There were only a few water points around the village giving a weak flow of brown, rusty water. People had long waits for water, and sometimes taps did not work. There were arguments about maintenance and some people went back to collecting water from streams. It was not a healthy situation.



Rosa noticed the cooperative spirit of all the villagers as they worked together on the water project. Men laid pipes while women provided food. The new pipes now provide clean water to many vulnerable households. People have taken on responsibility for the care of their water points. With water for all now, there are few complaints in the community.

Rosa enjoys more time at home and in her garden since having a water tank nearby.



Women in Prakash Tekadi Slum, Mumbai, India

LIVING DAY BY DAY

Like everyone this year, our partners wrestled with the impact of COVID-19. In many of the communities they serve in, however, people were already living day by day.

In Bangladesh, India, Zimbabwe and South Sudan, lockdown meant that the informal economy, in which the poorest people work, shut down. This took away their daily and only income. Our partners have been resilient in the face of this adversity, shifting their projects to provide support during the pandemic and initiating emergency response projects.

This year the most significant change story that summed up our year was from Bangladesh. A hostel student said, "Being in the hostel has helped me to value the importance of education. And also, I achieved a lot of things and it changed my life in that I know how to read, how to write. I know how to create my future life – through the hostel." This sense of the project opening up the world to the students was prevalent in the interviews we conducted. It reflects our hope for all of our projects – that we are not just giving people things but creating a space where their understanding of the possibilities expands along with their ability to embrace those possibilities.

Our partners are embracing new possibilities. This year, the Conference of Churches of Christ in Vanuatu (CCCV) developed an ongoing disaster response and preparedness project. Bandarban Hills Church of Christ (BHCOC) started working with the Community Advancement Forum (CAF) to enable them to gain better recognition with the government and better access for GMP to their projects. In South Sudan, Christian Mercy International (CMI) is leading a COVID-19 task force and LAFOSS organised a second peace

conference effortlessly – this time including cultural dancing! Hosanna Ministries in India is now working in what must be one of the poorest communities we are in contact with – a slum where many work picking rags. It is exciting to see how God has motivated and enabled these wonderful people.

We are always working to improve our practice and that currently means pursuing full accreditation with the Australian Government. This year our current base accreditation gave us access to Australian NGO Cooperation Program support for Showers of Blessing in Zimbabwe and Churches of Christ Conference in Vanuatu. Full accreditation means we need to focus our set of partners and projects more narrowly. We are building up some partners through increasing the size of their projects and through training their staff. Sadly, some partnerships have also come to an end; though in God's grace, this has been at a natural decision point and through mutual agreement. Bright Solution's project has finished, and Fiona Briers is staying on to wind up the company. Binh Phouc Association for the Disabled, Poor and Orphans (BPADPO) was also at a critical juncture and the partnership came to a natural end. We also progressed with alternative ways of enabling our Associate Partner projects.

Many thanks for your support this year which enables all of these things to happen in partnership with Churches of Christ across the world. It is our privilege to be on the frontline of seeing your heartfelt support touch the lives of many people.

YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

MEET SHRUTI COMPUTER CLASSES GAVE HER NEW OPPORTUNITIES...

To look at Shruti now, you wouldn't know that 18 months ago she was a shy girl with little hope for further education. The computer course provided through GMP's partner, Hosanna, gave Shruti the opportunity to learn computing and to improve her English. After a three-month course she passed the government's basic computer certificate exam. Her confidence has soared, and she hopes to become a teacher.



Her confidence has soared...

This year you helped COCOA projects give:



EMPOWERING INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES

INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA

GMP seeks to partner with, and among, Australian Indigenous people, focusing on Indigenous ministry and development. Our Indigenous ministries have been developed and planned by a council of Indigenous people to allow for in-depth direction setting from key Indigenous leaders and communities around the country.



MEET DENA

Wadjak Community Leader, Dena Gower, walks down to the banks of the Derbarl Yerrigan in Western Australia. Now commonly known as the Swan River, this is the land where her ancestors lived. "I always go down there," Dena says. "I just go and sit at the river and think, 'I wonder what it was like when my mob was here'. Their spirits were happy and free. It would have just been noise of the language and the people." When the first fleet arrived in Australia 232 years ago, it marked the beginning of English colonialism in the country. That's affected the Aboriginal people for a long time. Dena believes that it's important to acknowledge this past and to acknowledge that Aboriginal people are the traditional owners

of the land we live on. Dena says, "We have one Father, who gave this land to the Aboriginal man. I think what Australia needs to learn, is that the land does so much. It feeds us, it shelters us, it gives us finances, it takes care of our children." It makes Dena proud when brothers and sisters in Christ are respecting Welcome to Country. Dena says, "Back to the way it should be, in this country, that's what's needed."

Dena and her husband, Garry Gower, run Perth-based Ngaama Ministries. Ngaama seeks to provide training and discipleship to raise up a new generation of young Indigenous leaders.



A firepit gathering, Australia

NEW DIRECTIONS, ANCIENT PATHWAYS

“Encouraging new directions with Indigenous Christian Ministries” is the IMA vision statement given at our founding five years ago. We continue to be driven by the question arising from this statement in seeking out the ‘new directions’ and at the same time, we know these new directions can only ever be built on the ancient, God-given wisdom held within Indigenous leadership. Where do we see new green shoots of growth emerging and how do we help support them?

The last year of IMA’s activities has definitely seen some significant challenges, not the least being the widespread impact of COVID-19 on our partners and the many programs that we run in partnership together. In so many ways, we continue to be encouraged by the deeper impact of the growing support of many churches and individuals. This is part of a groundswell of increasingly compassionate and Spirit-led responses to the invitation from Indigenous Christian leaders to join them in charting new directions along ancient pathways of God-given wisdom.

The “new directions” we’ve been inspired to pursue have been characterised by community-based, Indigenous leadership which gives ownership and agency to the programs and dramatically increases their prospects of positive social and spiritual outcomes. These include the development of the IMA Essentials Packs – a community-led relief response to many facing hardship during COVID-19 restrictions; IMA Pathways – a ministry training support program; new community-led projects in a number of our partner ministries; and the planning and development of an annual Indigenous ministry briefing seminar.

Over the past year, IMA, in partnership with True North Church, has been filming and editing a series of short films, which tell the stories of both people and places associated with IMA’s work, drawing from the life experiences of some of our Aboriginal Christian leaders and the ancient wisdom they hold and share. These short films will form part of a larger film festival, hosted by local churches, during NAIDOC week 2020 (November 8-15).

Several Western Australian pastors had the opportunity to go out on Ngadju country to experience some of the biodiversity of the Great Western Woodlands. Les Schultz, a Ngadju ranger and one of the leaders of Norseman Church of Christ, shared with the group about the ancient practices of cool burning and the importance of the water tree for survival.

Bunbury Aboriginal Christian Fellowship has begun to use the church facilities as a place for training people in Noongar language, both drawing upon ancient wisdom and incorporating Biblical stories and songs.

Ngaama Ministries (Perth) launched its first Indigenous Art Exhibition Week, displaying a range of artworks by local Indigenous artists. Hosted and supported by Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, the art exhibition provided a fresh way for the sharing of cultural knowledge and experience.

We are developing pathways for partnership between Indigenous and non-Indigenous churches and communities. Our Church Resource Kits have seen a great uptake across numerous churches around the country. Greater impact can be made when there is deep respect and understanding of one another. This has informed everything we do at IMA and in turn, has seen an increase in awareness from the wider community of the issues facing Indigenous communities and ministries.

We continue to work alongside Indigenous Christian communities in Bunbury, Perth, Norseman, Esperance and Port Hedland in Western Australia, Dareton in New South Wales, Footscray in Victoria and also Ceduna in South Australia.

IMA, together with our Indigenous ministry partners, deeply values the compassionate supporters that join with us in working for an Australia that honours and respects the God-given culture, leadership and gifts of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters and longs, as we do, to walk as a reconciled nation in new directions along ancient pathways together.

YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

MEET TONY AND FRANCINE PASTORS OF THE MELBOURNE INDIGENOUS FELLOWSHIP

Tony and Francine Riches pastor the Melbourne Indigenous Fellowship in partnership with the Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship (AEF) and Churches of Christ. Francine says, “My journey in life has taught me to rely on God and put my trust in Him with every challenge I face each day.” Francine was raised by her Christian grandparents and English was her second language. “My people are the Arriyol clan of the Bardi tribe. My mother’s people live at Ardyuloon, One Arm Point. My father’s people are the Kurajarri from Bidyadanga and my stepfather’s people are also Bardi and Jabba Jabba. Growing up we lived off the land and sea and travelled from island to island wherever the water holes were full. I was taught all the ways of my people and culture as well as faith in God.” Tony grew up in Camperdown in Western Victoria before becoming a Christian in his late teens, after which he moved to Western Australia, where he was involved in numerous ministries including



I was taught all the ways of my people and culture as well as faith in God.

childcare support roles in hostels, pastoring and community administration across the state. As well as pastoring the Melbourne Indigenous Church Fellowship, Tony is Chaplain to the Indigenous players and families in the AFL. He also heads up training and development for the Solid Chaplaincy Indigenous Youth Program. Francine works in Indigenous community health and has just submitted for her PhD at Melbourne University.

This year you helped IMA achieve:

 **8** Indigenous ministry projects

Partners Across **4** States in Australia 

2 Facilitation Sessions for Churches with Australians Together

14 Church Speaking engagements 

Average of **125** Indigenous Youth accessing the Dareton Youth and Community Centre  per week

Regular Radio interviews of IMA Leaders and Partners on 98five (Western Australia) 

2 community-based cultural events Noongar Singing Workshops

 **37** Essentials Packs distributed

CONNECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN MISSION

EMBODY

embody exists to empower, encourage and support a national community of young people who are passionate about mission. We want to see God's Kingdom come, to be the best stewards of the resources we currently have, and to support those who are the most vulnerable and marginalised in our world.

Image: Safe Water September Challenge-Taker Maddy, Victoria, Australia



MEET PENNY AND NOAH

Mum Penny and son Noah are repeat Safe Water September challenge takers, and part of the Ringwood Church of Christ squad in Victoria. They are raising money as a family team for safe water projects, and sharing the Safe Water September story with family, friends, and schoolmates. Noah delivered a presentation about the challenge at his school assembly. Giving up drinkable treats is never fun, but Penny and Noah tell us, "We want to challenge ourselves, and be reminded of some things we can take for granted."





Samuel Curkpatrick, BJ and Chipu Mpfu, Natalie Oakes and Mitchell Salmon at a 2019 Safe Water September event

ACTIVE CHANGE MAKERS

Thanks to your ongoing investment in the leaders, advocates and activists of the next generation, the embody network is continuing to connect young people to mission and justice opportunities and, most importantly, to one another.

Our small embody team met in early 2020 to strategise and collaborate on what the next few years will look like for our network. At the centre of what we planned was a vision of embody as an online community of practice for young people across Australia. So, when COVID-19 hit, we found ourselves ahead of the game when it came to thinking online-first.

We have launched and continued to develop an ongoing online community using the chat app Discord, where people from across Australia can share and collaborate on mission and justice topics. We also experimented with live-stream events tied to Safe Water September. Recordings of these are available on our Facebook page.

In 2020, we launched a new resource for young people in local churches everywhere, a podcast titled Mission Unplugged. Each month, a member of the embody team sits down with a young person who is living out their faith in mission and justice work, wherever they are. Early episodes have already been encouraging and inspiring. You can find Mission Unplugged wherever you get your podcasts.

A pilot group for a coaching program for young leaders in local churches continues to develop. This group provides young leaders with an opportunity to meet other leaders like themselves, and develop strong networks of support

as they explore mission together. The initial pilot group consists of six young leaders from around Victoria. Future groups will be open to young leaders nationwide.

The Safe Water September 2019 campaign smashed our fundraising records, raising over \$162,000 for safe water projects in rural Zimbabwe and, for the first time, Vanuatu. This phenomenal outcome came thanks to your generosity, and the courage and determination of challenge takers of all ages across Australia.

In staffing news, Natalie Oakes stepped down as embody National Coordinator in April 2020. We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to Nat, and thank her for her leadership of the embody team over the past years. Her tireless work, particularly in the Safe Water September campaigns, created a foundation that will continue to serve the embody network for years to come. The role of National Coordinator now sits with Mitchell Salmon, former embody Vic/Tas Relationships Manager.

Your ongoing support and encouragement of embody means so much to us, and allows us to create this unique missional network with young people around Australia. Together, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of people around the world, and live out our God-given calling as active change makers – of all ages!

YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

MEET KELLY FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF THE SONDER COLLECTIVE

When planning the Mission Unplugged podcast, our team knew there were certain people we couldn't wait to include, and Kelly was one of them. Kelly is the founder and director of the Sonder Collective, an ecumenical youth and young adults ministry operating in regional Victoria, and a good friend of the embody team. Having her on the podcast to reflect on her journey was so much fun. Kelly shared on Mission Unplugged about how she learned through her youth group to look for opportunities to 'put her hand up' and get involved, and do simple things like "happy letters, notes, putting some tinned goods aside so we can send them to someone who needs something." That attitude of taking opportunities and helping where needed, is reflected in the Sonder Collective. "I noticed that the churches all around me all had young people but they didn't have people to work with them... So, I kind of just did this, you know, simple thing... like, you have young people and no youth leader and I'm a youth leader with not very many young people. Let's just do it together!" We love having Kelly as a friend of the embody community, and as a guest on Mission Unplugged. You can listen to the full conversation with Kelly wherever you get your podcasts by searching Mission Unplugged.



"You have young people and no youth leader and I'm a youth leader with not very many young people. Let's just do it together!"

This year you helped Safe Water September achieve:

320
people
taking the challenge

51
teams
taking the challenge

Receiving
2426
donations

Raising more than:
\$162,000

Giving more than
8000 people
access to safe water

Supporting projects in
Zimbabwe & Vanuatu

PEOPLE & PROGRAMS

People and programs are intimately linked in GMP. We don't have programs without people behind them, people sustaining them and people benefiting from them.



Image: Children from Emmanuel Childcare Centre, Mumbai, India



Zac Holden, Bendigo Church of Christ, and Pastor Shephard Mafa of the Sasula Circuit in Zvishavane, Zimbabwe

PARTNER VISITS

It is a special privilege and joy to have the opportunity to visit our partners and see their ministries in operation.

It is also a great encouragement for our partners to be able to meet and share directly with those who partner in practical ways with them. Such connection deepens the partnership and provides an opportunity to strengthen faith and see God at work in all our lives.

Partner visits are not forgotten; they are deeply impacting and often defining moments in our lives. Our partners appreciate the encouragement of the visit while there, as well as the advocacy that happens when teams return home along with the continuing prayers and communication. We return with a much deeper understanding of daily life for our partners; often challenged by the depth of their faith and reliance on God.

In the 2019-20 financial year, before COVID-19 interrupted all our travel plans, eight teams and two individuals shared time with overseas partners. Here are some of their reflections.

“We were very impressed by the integrity of GMP’s partners in Indonesia. They were so professional, and the level of transparency and accountability was encouraging. I would be more than confident to partner with them next year via their Smart Point Project initiative,” reported Carly Cassidy, Mission Minister at One Church (VIC) after visiting the Asia Pacific Christian Mission International School in Bandung.

“Back from a wonderful visit to Zimbabwe. Met wonderful people, saw amazing things, heard some inspiring stories – all in a country where life is difficult, but people still worship with joy and greeted us with peace and hospitality. Every day was a good day,” said Fay Christensen (QLD), part of the GMP Zimbabwe Discovery Team.

Trevor Gordge (SA), on the same team reflected, “We read about the ministry of Khayelihle Children’s Village (KCV), we heard stories from others who had visited Zimbabwe, we hosted Boniface Mpfu (Showers of Blessings Project Director) in our home a few years ago, and we have participated in Safe Water September for a long time now. So, when the opportunity arose, we excitedly joined the GMP discovery trip to Zimbabwe! We were inspired by the depth of the Zimbabwean churches’ commitment and their generosity embodied the selflessness of Christ. At the rural Gudo church, some people had walked 10 kilometres to attend. We also had the opportunity to visit some of the 240 wells that have been drilled by the Showers of Blessings program. We saw the amazing impact these wells have had on local communities, enabling them to expand their vegetable gardens, as well as having greater access to clean water for personal needs. These communities were so appreciative and are working to increase the impact of their cherished well. We also had the opportunity to stay at KCV and engage with the children there. It was encouraging to see KCV working well, despite the challenges that they face with their work. Even the quieter moments came with an impact. Our times driving between places were great opportunities to share our Christian journeys with one another, reflecting on common and different experiences. Our return to Australia was only a physical departure. Our experiences of Zimbabwean hospitality, culture and joy, despite significant hardships, will never leave us.”

Truly we are stronger together.

PEOPLE IN MISSION

GMP continues to support the sending of people into mission settings, both as volunteers and as those who are supported financially.



BJ and Chipu Mpfu

BJ and Chipu Mpfu continue to resource and encourage Zimbabwean church leaders. BJ is on the board of the Zimbabwe Christian College and is a key coordinator for GMP partner visits to Zimbabwe. COVID-19 has brought extra challenges for each of these activities.



Brendon Garlett

Brendon is pioneering culturally relevant and relational outreach opportunities among the local Indigenous community as well as working closely with Ilker, Josh and the team at the Dareton Youth and Community Centre, NSW.



Fiona Briers

Fiona has led the Bright Solutions program in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, giving training, employment and dignity to marginalised women for the past 10 years, as well as encouraging local leaders. COVID-19 impacted Bright Solutions significantly with the loss of markets, contributing to the company’s closure on 30 June 2020. Fiona will stay in Vietnam until the end of 2020, to oversee the marketing and selling of remaining stock and the finalising of Bright Solutions Vietnam as a company.

ASSOCIATES IN MISSION



Jamie and Claudia Boland

The Boland family moved to South Sudan to serve full-time at the start of 2013. In early 2014 they were forced to relocate to Uganda due to the civil war in South Sudan. Jamie joined the faculty of Africa Renewal University where he serves as Academic Coordinator and lecturer of theology. The Bolands are now training more South Sudanese pastors than in their time in Sudan, along with pastors from Uganda and surrounding East African nations.



Chris and Jodie MacCartney

Along with their daughters, Grace, Ruby and Millie, Chris and Jodie have lived and served in Bangkok alongside people living in poverty since January 2007. Together with their neighbours, the MacCartneys have witnessed first-hand the transformative love and grace of God coming among the slum community in which they live. The MacCartney’s primary ministry focus is to empower and equip local leaders to recognise their place in God’s kingdom, and to develop projects with neighbours that help to alleviate poverty in their community. Chris and Jodie co-founded Second Chance Bangkok with neighbours in 2009.



Dr Ash and Anji Barker

After 25 years of urban mission in Melbourne and Bangkok, Ash Barker is now immersed in the multi-racial and multi-religious inner-city neighbourhood of Winson Green, Birmingham (UK) as the Founding Director of Newbiggin House. Together with his wife, Anji, they founded the Newbiggin School for Urban Leadership, which aims to mobilise, form and equip Christian leaders.



EMERGENCY & WELFARE PROGRAMS

Emergency Appeals

Indonesia – Sulawesi Emergency Appeal – ACT Alliance

On 28 September 2018, an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.4 hit Central Sulawesi. This earthquake triggered a tsunami that battered the Sulawesi coast. The two provinces directly affected were Central Sulawesi (Donggala, Palu City, Sigi and Parigi Moutong) and West Sulawesi (North Mamuju District).

GMP worked through the ACT Alliance's Indonesia Forum. Our assistance contributed to:

- Distribution of ≈2,186,400 litres of safe water in 145 locations for 20,077 families;
- Seven boreholes to provide water for about 1,000 people;
- 24 four-stall public latrines and one three-stall public latrine built for 1,708 people;
- 2,347 WASH kits for 2,347 families;
- 328 transitional shelters built in partnership with families in nine villages, and
- 2,110 shelter kits for 2,110 households.

Zimbabwe – Tropical Cyclone Idai – ACT Alliance

The flooding caused by the powerful Tropical Cyclone Idai weather system that struck on 15 March 2019, destroyed crops and livestock in areas already facing rising food insecurity. Overall, more than 16,000 households are estimated to be affected.

GMP has worked through the ACT Alliance's Zimbabwe Forum. Our assistance contributed to:

- WASH kits to 1,194 households;
- Construction of 147 houses for families in the hard to reach districts of Chipinge, Buhera and Bikita;
- A hygiene awareness initiative to build the resilience and capacity of health workers' psychosocial support to over 3,000 people, and
- Training for over 50 church leaders to offer psychological support to individuals, families and communities.

Vanuatu – Ambae Volcano and Tropical Cyclone Harold.

GMP continued to provide assistance to Ambae communities affected by the volcanic activity.

This assistance included water tanks, seedlings and income-generating activities for women and was provided through the Ambae Disaster Preparedness Project (ADP). Collaborating with Anglican Overseas Aid, we were able to secure additional funding from the ACT Alliance to extend this project.

The response to Tropical Cyclone Harold is also being undertaken through the ADP project. An assessment of community needs has been undertaken for Ambae, Maewo, Pentecost, and Santo, including Malo, Tutuba, and Mavea. Churches of Christ Vanuatu staff are working with the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office to coordinate activities.

Welfare Programs

GMP offers care and support to people in practical ways that are not easily described as a development project. We do this as part of our non-tax-deductible work. Thanks to the support of our generous donors to provide care for children and access education.

The children's homes in Baramati and Shrigonda, India, provide quality care for children and ensure that they have access to schooling. There have been changes in the way that the government in the state of Maharashtra regulates homes such as these. At Shrigonda, the girls who reside are boarders from the surrounding villages and can attend the school linked to the home. The boys at Baramati include some who are there due to being vulnerable because of their family situation and other boys are boarders. They attend the local Churches of Christ schools. Most of the children return home in the school holidays.

The Gnyan Sampada School in Lasina, India, continues to provide low-income families access to quality education. It is a Christian school that welcomes students from all religious communities. Many children are not able to attend this school, and so are provided with support so they can access local schools through subsidies for fees and uniforms.

The Ashwood Memorial Hospital continues to provide medical care to people regardless of their ability to pay. The Ashwood Hospital Board is now governed by a competency-based board and is planning a renovation of the hospital buildings.

YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

PRACTICAL SUPPORT GIVES SULAWESI HOPE

Students who study at the Christian Church Theological School of Indonesia (CCTSI) dedicate their lives to serving the Lord and to impact the lives of others. On weekends, students travel to villages where they can assist local churches and build relationships with local people who desperately need to hear what Jesus has done for them. So, when the earthquake and tsunami hit the Palu area of Central Sulawesi in September 2018, CCTSI students and alumni were quick to take up the opportunity to participate in the local relief efforts. They helped the community clean up debris, joined with government volunteers and aid agencies to bring food, LPG, stoves, blankets and books, as well as assisted in building temporary shelters. Students helped to provide counselling and trauma healing, addressing health concerns, and



ministered to children and parents. CCTSI also sent in some water tanks for a clean water supply. Hery Susanto, CCTSI Academic Dean said, "It will take years for life to return to normal after such a disaster, but at least we could help, even in small ways, to share God's love to those who had suffered so much."

"It will take years for life to return to normal after such a disaster, but at least we could help, even in small ways, to share God's love to those who had suffered so much."



GMP is working through the ACT Alliance's Indonesia Forum in responding to the Sulawesi Emergency Appeal.



From Left: Terence Ng, Elise Andrews, Samuel Curkpatrick, John Gilmore, Colin Battersby, Val Zerna, Colin Scott, Suzanne Hayes, Vicki Marney, Gavian Chan, Mitchell Salmon, Kyra Foster, Craig Brown, Jan Bayliss, Natalie Oakes, Eli Minuz, Nick Wight, Lauren Butler, Lisa Szepessy

MEET THE TEAM

STAFF MEMBERS*

Executive Officer _____ John Gilmore
Deputy Executive Officer _____ Craig Brown

Partnership Coordinators

Partnership Coordinator (NSW) _____ Colin Scott
Partnership Coordinator (SA/NT) _____ Val Zerna
Partnership Coordinator (VIC/TAS) _____ Samuel Curkpatrick
Partnership Coordinator (QLD) _____ Vicki Marney
Partnership Coordinator (WA) _____ Colin Battersby

Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA)

COCOA Director _____ Colin Scott
COCOA Partner Education Officer _____ Jan Bayliss
COCOA Program Officer _____ Suzanne Hayes

International Church Partnerships (ICP)

ICP Director _____ Craig Brown

Indigenous Ministries Australia

IMA Coordinator (East) _____ Nick Wight
IMA Coordinator (West) _____ Remy Sese

embody

embody National Coordinator _____ Natalie Oakes
(Concluded April 2020)
Mitch Salmon

embody Relationships
Manager (VIC/TAS) _____ Mitch Salmon
embody Relationships
Mission Catalyst (NSW) _____ Jessie Skelly

Finance and Administration

Finance and Administration
Manager _____ Lisa Szepessy
Bookkeeper _____ Katrina Davidson
Receipting and
Assistant Bookkeeper _____ Susan Thomas
Database and Administration _____ Audrey Lim
Administration Assistant _____ Melinda van Vuuren

Communications

Director of Communications
and Design _____ Elise Andrews
Media and Communications
Manager _____ Rachel McIlgorm
Graphic Designer _____ Eli Minuz
Social Media _____ Kyra Foster
Copy Writer _____ Lauren Butler
(Concluded October 2019)
Zach Blackmore

Marketing

Director of Marketing and
Fundraising _____ Gavian Chan
Supporter Care _____ Val Zerna
Database Coordinator _____ Terence Ng

BOARD MEMBERS

Barrie Yesberg

Chair and Executive
Member, WA

Ordained Minister of Churches
of Christ, Australian Federal
Police Chaplain, Royal Australian
Navy Reserve Principal Chaplain,
and Indigenous missionary
experience with the Federal
Aborigines Mission Board.
Involved in Warnbro Community
Church in Western Australia.
Married with four children, and
six grandchildren.

John Gilmore

Executive Officer, VIC

Master of Theology. Executive
Director of Mission and Ministry
for Churches of Christ VIC/TAS
for 10 years. National Council
of Churches in Australia
(NCCA), Act for Peace Director
and Chair of the Board,
NCCA Director and Micah
Australia Director. Ten years
active involvement in Christian
Conference Asia.

Roger Bawden

Treasurer and Chair of the
Finance Risk and Audit
Committee, Member GMP
Review Group, QLD

Diploma of Business, retired
missionary and businessman.
Worked in senior management
roles for 40 years including
Vanuatu, national retail business,
aged care and state-wide
retirement villages. Actively
involved in the life of the Bribie
Island Church of Christ through
worship leading, music and
other activities.

Gordon Buxton

Member COCOA Reference
Group, Member Finance Risk
and Audit Committee, NSW

Established Yooralla Youth
Ministries and Yooralla
Overseas Development Fund,
which is a registered aid and
development fund. More
than 30 years' experience
as a consultant in customer
focused operations and human
resources management.

Symon Pratt

(elected December 2019)
Member ICP Reference
Group, VIC

Graduate Diploma of Divinity,
Masters in Arts (Ministry
Practice), Bachelor of Business
(Marketing) and a Graduate
Diploma in Business (Travel and
Tourism). Ministry team member
at 121 Gilles St, Ballarat, and
previously at Bundaberg Church
of Christ. Formerly Associate
Pastor at CrossCulture working
with children, youth and
university students including
ChildSafe Training, leadership
development, and leading local
and international mission trips.

Mark Riessen

(elected December 2019)
Deputy Chair, Member of
Board Executive, SA

Masters in Theology, currently
studying a Doctor of Ministry.
Mission and Ministry Director
with Churches of Christ in SA
& NT. Director of the Tabor
Churches of Christ Study
Centre where he lectures
in Effective Community
Engagement, Leadership for
Ministry and Churches of Christ
Identity.

Vandana Thavare

(elected December 2019)
Member GMP Review
Group, Member ICP
Reference Group, WA

Degree in Physiotherapy.
Currently undertaking a
Graduate Diploma in Divinity
part-time. Has worked in
far north WA and in the
NT, including with several
Indigenous communities.
Born in India to Indian parents,
Bhimrao and Kanta Thavare,
she moved with her family
to Fiji where they served as
missionaries with OMB (now
GMP) from December 2001
until 2006.

Sarah Tan

Member COCOA Reference
Group, VIC

Bachelor of Law (Hons).
Working as an Australian lawyer
and Registered Migration Agent
since 2010 at an international
immigration firm. Two years'
experience with an international
NGO volunteering as a Legal
Fellow in India, and then helping
to establish the organisation's
Australian operations in Sydney.
Attending Red Church of Christ,
and participant of an Emerging
Leaders Group of Christian
workers based in the Melbourne
CBD.

Sean Kum

Member Finance Risk and
Audit Committee, WA

Master of Science, Bachelor
of Commerce and Cert IV.
R.E. (REIWA), held senior
management positions
in retail, commercial
property management,
telecommunication and
payment technology.
Multilingual, and spent some
years living and working
in Asia. Experience in
leadership, management and
cross-cultural understanding.
Currently working as a real
estate executive in Perth.

Rod Cousins

(concluded December 2019)
Member Board Executive,
WA

Associateship in Commerce,
member of the Chartered
Institute of Secretaries, CPA
Australia and the Australian
Institute of Export. Worked in
management positions for 40
years, including operations
across S.E. Asia. Part of the
Subiaco Church of Christ Elders
Board and Missions Team.

Mark Stevens

(concluded December 2019)
Member ICP Reference
Group, SA

Master of Ministry, ordained
Churches of Christ Minister;
Pastor at Happy Valley Church
of Christ. More than 10 years
ministry service, four years'
experience in theological
education, church planter and
leader of teams to Vietnam.

Janet Woodlock

(concluded December 2019)
Deputy Board Chair, Member
Board Executive, Member
ICP Reference Group,
Redress Task Group, VIC

BSc, Dip Ed, MDiv, Cert IV
in Workplace and Business
Coaching, teacher and
ordained Churches of Christ
minister. Janet is chaplain at
Kilvington Grammar School and
has worked as a coach and
trainer with Christian Coaching
Institute. She has worked
for the National Council of
Churches, Churches of Christ
in Australia, and Churches of
Christ in Vic/Tas.



**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!**

*We couldn't do it
without you.*

Above: Children from Emmanuel Childcare Centre who benefited from food packets distributed by Hosanna Ministries, Mumbai, India
Back Cover: Child from Prakash Tekadi, Mumbai, India



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ACFID
MEMBER