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The Voice of Evangelical Action (Brazil)



YEARS!

*The work goes on
To God be the glory!*



2 DESERT FLOWER PROJECT

EAB's Desert Flower Project works with very poor women from the Placas slum in Patos. The project's aim is to transmit to them the life changing Gospel of Jesus and to teach them handicraft skills so as to give them an alternative to drug related means of making a living.

The quality of their work has become high, so much so that in July they were invited to display some of their crafts at the Cultural Foundation of Patos, which wanted to be a showcase for local artists.

The exhibition was open to the public and their handiwork was greatly admired. Looking at the photos of these very poor women just makes us realise how much they have been blessed by this project thus far!

To add to this, the Patos church has invited the 'Desert Flowers' to come to some special evening services. They are evenings of much praise and worship to the Lord, in gratitude for the lives of the women taking part in the Project, with much praise to God for His love for them.

John Medcraft preaches the Gospel loud and clear on these opportunities. After the service the ladies sell the crafts they have made raising about £100 each time.

This gives them a greater confidence in their own abilities and hopefully, a greater understanding of the love and care given to them by our staff, thus opening the way for them to know Jesus as Saviour.



Another aspect of the project has been a series of activities, co-ordinated by a professor and students of a psychology university course in Patos, held for the women. The aim of the teaching was to make each lady recognise their own potential, overcome personal challenges and seek empowerment as a woman in their various day to day roles. One of the ladies declared "There were moments of great learning and reflection. Before we look at people we have to look inside ourselves, so I will seek to apply everything I have learnt."

Activities such as these are part of EAB's courageous Desert Flower Project, which always seeks to show women the importance of the role of each one at home and in society, as agents of transformation.

Please pray for the transforming power of Christ to defeat all Spiritism strongholds in this community, liberating these women from all substance dependence which might hold them back from blossoming as true flowers in the desert of poverty and sin.



PINHEIRA MARKET GARDEN

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Maria de Lourdes lives in a stick and mud house she built herself in the village of Pinheira.

After EAB had drilled a well and hit copious amounts of water EAB set up a market garden for the villagers with a sprinkler system. Fruit and vegetables grew in abundance so besides feeding the families they could also sell the produce to local schools, shops and in the market. The family were soon able to buy a motor bike to get the produce to the town quicker, and thus fresher.

However one night at midnight they had a knock on the door. They said they were the Police, and were able to post an ID card under the door to prove it. The door opened and Maria de Lourdes and her husband João were astounded to hear they had been accused of growing marijuana because they had gone from absolute poverty to having money to buy things!

Rather than protest their innocence Maria de Lourdes's husband led the police down to the market garden, by the light of a police torch, and told the police they could help themselves to anything that grew there.

The police were astounded to see the magnificent crops of lettuce, beans, carrots, etc., and realised the people had improved their living standard by hard work and having access to water.

The police did not find any drugs being grown and were completely satisfied that EAB's help in drilling the well had enabled many families to fresh, nutritious food for the first time in their lives. The police apologized and left.

Please pray for the EAB organic market garden project that God might bless all the families involved with both physical food and the bread of life and that more funds will be available to bless more communities.



ACTION EMPLOY

John Medcraft, together with local veterinary surgeon, Adriana Carvalho, have launched a new initiative called the 'Action Employ' Project. This aims to improve the conditions of the unemployed so they can get employment, help any worker improve their business and income, and help any entrepreneurs to successfully implement their ideas.

Adriana says how the project has already helped a number of people. "For we noticed that many did not know how to produce a good, attractive and correct CV, which put them at a disadvantage in a competitive work market.

We also advise people about being careful how they use social media as many companies check job candidates through this means.

It's great to help people in practical ways like this to help themselves. The project is open to non-Christians as well as our folk." she said.



SPECIAL 3 DAY

EAB supporters will know that we are a fervently evangelistic Mission. All our churches love to preach and share the Gospel and lead people to Christ.

Each church has its own evangelistic programme, distribute Bibles and Gospel tracts, 7 maintain evangelistic radio programmes and most use social media to communicate the Gospel both directly and indirectly.

John Medcraft, for example, works in partnership with a Christian poetess called Zenilda Lua. John provides beautiful nature photographs of God's creation taken at Green Pastures and Zenilda writes appropriate poetry in keeping with the photos which discreetly communicate the Gospel. John says that "People often take the 'Bible medicine' almost without realizing it!"

Every January EAB/ACEV runs a special 10-day Outreach in a town or village in need of the Gospel. This can be part of a church plant initiative or as a booster for a work where things are tough.

January is like the UK's August holiday month so 100 of our youth give up their holidays, get trained by our team, and dedicate 10 days to sleeping rough (usually on mattresses on the floor) and to intense evangelism and prayer.



OUTREACHES

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In EAB's 80th year we have now expanded our evangelistic endeavors to a second version of our Outreach projects with three simultaneous 3-day outreaches, involving 30 in each team, in different areas where EAB works in NE Brazil, in the month of July.

This year our teams worked in Belem Village (which means Bethlehem) in Tavares County, Barra de Otis Village (which is an ex-slave community) in Diamante County and in a number of small communities around Green Pastures in São Mamede County, including the ex-landless community of NS Aparecida II.

A total of 11 communities were evangelized in the 3 areas with a total of 530 people attending the little Gospel services in the evenings and 315 were personally evangelized in the daytime, as were 105 children. The 3 teams distributed 16 Bibles to people perceived to be seeking the truth of Jesus and 66 Gospel tracts were also given out. A total of 8 people made decisions of commitment to Christ during the events.

Please pray for the special outreaches made by EAB/ACEV with another one being lined up for January 2019. Please pray for the funding of these projects as feeding 100 for 10 days is expensive as are the travelling expenses high plus the follow-up teams which are a vital aspect of every outreach.



EAB NEWS IN BRIEF

FIRST AID COURSES

The church at Imaculada held a 10 hour training course in First Aid so that people could be a positive help at an accident before the ambulance arrived. The course was open to anyone in their town and was a positive way to show their care for their own community.

In Patos EAB/ACEV's church has run various courses teaching people how to save little children's lives when they are choking. One young married man, Adelson, became quite famous in the local press when he put this into practice and saved a toddler's life when he got into serious difficulties in a restaurant. Please pray for EAB's practical community insertion programs which save lives and demonstrate God's love.

Don't forget to support the EAB English language only facebook page..

by visiting it and clicking on the word "Like" at the top of the page. This is an important means of spreading the word about EAB on a worldwide scale and of keeping right up to date with daily photos and mini news snippets:
[facebook.com/eabrazil](https://www.facebook.com/eabrazil)



Please visit our website....

www.eabrazil.org

KIDS CARING FOR CREATION

On 21st July the children at EAB's Pastor Frank Dyer School in Patos had an Environmental Awareness Day.

First the children were taught how to discard rubbish correctly and the consequences of pollution to the planet. They then went out onto the streets and were supervised as they did a Litter Pick in the Jatobá neighbourhood around their school.

They also learnt about the Green Pastures Nature Reserve & Christian Conference Centre and the preservation work developed by Pastor John Medcraft, who donated two native tree seedlings for the children to plant. The children named the trees 'Kindness' and 'Hope', which represent the growing awareness of our Action Child Schools regarding the necessity to care for creation.

Please pray for EAB's 14 Action Child Schools, for their support through sponsorship and the expansion of this aspect of EAB's ministry. Please pray for EAB's environmental awareness work so that God might help us to help people understand the need to not chop down trees but to plant them!



CURRAL VELHO

Curral Velho (the name is translated as Old Cow Pen) is a small village John and Liz visited to spend time with the leaders there, Tica and Ramos, before the church's 28th anniversary service at which John preached the Word of God. It is not easy building up a church from scratch in such an outlying place.

It takes a lot of work, perseverance and prayer. These are the sort of villages EAB ministers are at and for which you pray and support.



And it was a great joy this year for the EAB/ACEV leadership to finally give Curral Velho full church status, having come through the initial church plant phase of existence and the medium size developing stage.

The village and entire county only has a population of 2,523 which includes all the farming communities in the 223 square kilometres (about 86 sq. miles) of the district. It is hot, dry and poor. The United Nations' Human Development Index which reports on life expectancy, schooling and living standards has Curral Velho as low (0.595).

Life expectancy here is only 45 years, while the average for Brazil is 75 years, and UK, 80 years. Please pray for these extremely poor communities where EAB is working to share the Gospel in word and deed. Please pray for the Curral Velho church.

FUNDRAISING

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We are very grateful to everyone who raised funds and awareness for us through the year.

These include Cadnam Methodist Church with their annual concert, Found Church's ceilidh, Jean N's concert and Marian's Christmas Gift Cards.

Each fundraising event means we can reach many people with the Gospel and practical care.

LEGACIES

If you are interested in leaving EAB some money, or gifts, in your will please contact the treasurer (her details are on the back page) and ask for the legacy details.



A LIFT TO SALVATION

by John Medcraft

I was in a meeting when a middle-aged man, who lives on a small farm holding, asked me if I knew how he had been converted? When I replied "No." he proceeded to tell me his testimony.

He said that one day he was returning drunk from the market, stumbling along the earth track, with his sack of supplies for his family on his back. I happened to be passing in my little Chevette car and I stopped, put my 3 kids, who were small then, on the back seat, and sat him in the front alongside me.

I put his sack of supplies in the boot and took him to his little house where I handed him over to the family, and the sack to his wife, and then I left. He then said that he turned to his whole family right away and declared that from that moment on he would live as a Christian because he had just understood the meaning of the love of God.

All praise be to Jesus! Action speaks louder than words. (This man is still a member of an EAB/ACEV church in NE Brazil to this day).

PATOS CHURCH LIVE BROADCAST EVERY SUNDAY

Did you know that you can see and listen to the service in the Patos Church, live, each Sunday night at 18:30 (Patos time) and 21:30 (UK BST time). Do not miss this wherever you are!

We certainly have come a long way from the days of communicating by post which took months!

Watch each service live or see its recording the following day at:
[facebook.com/Ação-Evangélica-Patos-PB-773650192729931](https://www.facebook.com/Ação-Evangélica-Patos-PB-773650192729931)



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EAB's 80th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, 30th September must have been one of EAB's best annual celebrations in a long time with the Lighthouse Community Church, Hardley, Southampton really full of supporters, of a wide range of ages and full of flowing praise to God. A number of ministers were present, and also of special note was the fact that Esme Harrison-Smith was there as the last surviving witness from EAB's initial launch at the Southampton Docks in 1938!

But the main emphasis of the Celebration was on the present and future, and not the past, as all here were called to seek a new fire for mission in NE Brazil, youth were challenged to form short-term missions teams, all were shown the need to increase our support base and fundraisers, but above all else everyone was called to PRAY for the evangelism of 6,000 villages without the Gospel in Brazil's NE interior where EAB works + so many ex-slave and ex-landless communities, the deaf and those dominated by possession-type Spiritism.

All were also called to PRAY for EAB's multiple integrated social action projects which make God's love tangible to the very poor and go hand in hand with EAB's church planting. EAB presses on with vigour till poverty is history and not one village remains without a clear Biblical Gospel witness!



Please support EAB!

If you would like to make a donation towards the work of EAB, please send your cheques made payable to 'Evangelical Action Brazil' to Mrs Beryl Gough, 6 The Glade, Langley, Southampton SO45 1ZP.

Alternatively, if you want to make a direct payment from your bank, our banking details are: Lloyds, sort code 30-91-85 account number 02385564. If you use this option please email eabfinance@gmail.com giving brief details of the donation. Donations can be made online at www.eabrazil.org

Any gift, no matter how small is greatly appreciated and will be used to further God's work in Brazil. If you are a UK tax payer and would like to 'Gift Aid' your donation, please ask Beryl for a form. Thank You!