



NOVEMBER 2023
Edition 100

inTouch

The Voice of Evangelical Action (Brazil)



100th Edition of
inTouch

Market Gardens Flourishing

We continue to set up Market Gardens where the land is suitable and people are willing to learn how to grow their own food. We seek out families who need technical help to improve their work and who need equipment (wheelbarrow, shovel, hoe, watering cans, water tank etc.) to improve their income.

Our latest one is at the Macambira dos Lúcius Community where our Social Team delivered tanks, irrigation pipes, hoses and other materials ready for the plantation to be started.

Meanwhile down at the Maxixeiro Community, our EAB Social agricultural advisor was giving guidance on the planting of cabbages and gourds. They already sell an average each month of 400 lettuces at 55p each and 400 bunches of coriander at 45p each. The project helps people help themselves and shows the love of God for them in the process.

The Market Garden at Cipó is more advanced and Anderson & Iramar are harvesting their good quality crops, grown without the use of pesticides, and providing income. These projects are always church based through contacts with our churches and pastors.



Community Launderette

Pastor Nemias of the Flores Church has built a launderette for the ladies of the Serrinha community so they can do their washing out of the burning hot sun.

Now they can hand-wash their clothes in the large sinks, with water from our well, while stood in the shade. This is such a blessing for the ladies who can now enjoy their household chores!



100th Edition of the EAB InTouch Magazine

by John Medcraft

During EAB's 85-year history communications have improved immensely. Between the 1930s and 1950s our missionaries could wait months for a letter to arrive from the UK.

Today contact is immediately available by telephone, website, email, blog, and social media. Nowadays I update my blog about the work we are involved in every other day and send out updates to all EAB supporters twice a month via email, whilst a few monthly postal updates go out to all those not on internet.

I can even take part in the meetings of the EAB Board of Trustees in the UK via internet.

However, despite all these modern means of communication EAB still maintains the publication of its bi-annual InTouch magazine on paper which is posted to all EAB supporters on our mailing list, **and this edition is number one hundred!**

The first edition of InTouch was published in April 1991 by its then editor Dave North. By the time we reached edition number 6 it was Peter White who took on the job as both editor and producer of a vastly upgraded version of our magazine as from September 1991.

At the beginning of EAB our founder Albert Mundy produced a monthly 'Prayer Letter' which was typed, duplicated, and sent out by post. We have in our archives edition number 2 which announces the Mundys' departure from Southampton docks on the HMS Almazora on the 20th of August 1938. Mr. Mundy published 32 'Prayer Letters' between 1938 and 1944.

In 1945 Albert Mundy started counting again publishing 22 'News Letters' between 1945 and 1949. However, in 1948 EAB (then was GTB - Gospel To Brazil) produced its first printed 'GTB News Bulletin' with photographs, and this series had 13 editions between 1948 and 1954.

It was in 1955 that EAB started publishing its 'GTB News' which were typed and duplicated. These were the days when there were 4 missionary families with EAB: the Mundys, Dyers, Peasleys and Emmens.

56 editions of the 'GTB News' duplicated were published between 1955 and 1974 (we arrived in Brazil in 1972) and 37 editions of the 'GTB News' printed with photos were published between 1975 and 1991 when our first 'InTouch' was published. All this is to say that in this centenary edition of EAB's InTouch magazine this is in fact the 260th edition of official EAB publications in all their formats and with all their names.

Peter White was editor and producer up to edition number 79 in 2011 and since then Marian Rashleigh is the editor and Dave Flowers is the producer.

Our thanks go to all who have contributed to EAB publications over the years and to all who read about the work and support it for the glory of God.



EVANGELISM

All our churches are active in evangelism, reaching out to others with the Gospel of Jesus.

Besides services in churches, we are out and about in our communities. Regular services are held in our Action Schools, churches, town squares, in farm buildings, football pitches, outside people's homes, and inside people's homes.

People take every opportunity to take part in some form of evangelism, whether individually or in a group. Several churches have teams which go out to places where there is no evangelical church.

At the street services rows of chairs are put out onto the road as cars move away, on the pavement you put a table, a light and a microphone with huge sound boxes which send the singing and Gospel message far and wide. No-one minds you blocking the traffic or making a noise as that is what everyone does in normal life.

A special evangelistic outreach is being planned in January for the town of Tavares and the neighbouring villages of Belém and Jurema when a team of at least 100 people will spend 10 days living in a school building and cooking for themselves for the honour of proclaiming the Gospel in services, children's work, knocking on every door in the town and surrounding villages.

Please pray for those preparing for all evangelistic events, that the songs and words will be relevant and change lives as the Word of God goes forth.



Schools' Co-Ordinators

Throughout the year our Action Schools co-ordinators have met regularly. They are Sacha, Gerlânia, João George and Jacilene, who run workshops for our teachers, with excellent teaching to refresh everyone in the work they are doing. The teaching carries on in the afternoon and evening. Please pray for the superb work being done by all our teachers.

They have also planned to develop new activities to cater for a group of 42 older students, between the ages of 9 and 14, who remain linked to our Pastor Frank Dyer School. Some of this group show real interest in the Gospel.

They have decided to promote such activities as football, mathematics workshops (to help them with their on-going schoolwork), judo, ballet, chess and music. Please pray that the adolescents involved in this initiative might come to know the Lord as their Saviour.



OUR NEW CARE CENTRE

EAB has been rebuilding its Patos Care Centre for some time now. We had a pause in the work for a few months to raise more money for the job, but now we are going full steam ahead whilst funds last.

The new building has been completely rewired, has a new ceiling and a new floor. Soon all the new doors and windows will be delivered, and these will be installed. Access to the Care Centre is now wheelchair friendly with an appropriate gentle ramp constructed at the entrance.

We have had to install a biodigester to the drainage system which is yet more expense for the work. This has now been done. It was installed at the insistence of the environmental department of the Patos Town Council.

When completed the Care Centre will include 'Mum's Kitchen' in memory of Liz's mother, Missionary Ivy Dyer. This will be open for people to enjoy drinks and snacks. As well as this the centre will resume its work with its dental surgery for the poor, work with the deaf, children and senior citizens and a food bank.



The Patos church is very actively fund raising to help complete this building work and any donations would be very gratefully received. The church regularly holds jumble sales which are very popular because besides raising money for the building project they also help the poor with dignity by selling them donated clothes, shoes etc. rather than giving them to them. After the main Sunday services the church folk also sell snacks to raise funds and once a team cooked 300 meals of a traditional Brazilian dish of stewed black beans and pork which was a total sell out.

We now have a night watchman sleeping at the Care Centre building site as the electrical wiring has all been completed, which is a common target of thieves on building sites. The night watchman is extra expense of course, but we had no choice. Within two weeks thieves tried to break into the Care Centre in the night, and tried to force open the temporary wooden door. However, our night watchman soon surprised them from inside and sent them running!



LIVE SERVICE FROM PATOS

Every Sunday night at 18:30 local time (21:30 GMT) our Patos church holds its main service of the week and this is transmitted via Facebook and YouTube.

Do join us for the service via the link www.facebook.com/ACEVPatos or via www.youtube.com.br/acevpatos

John always says a few words of greetings in English during the service.

JURU SPORT IN ACTION

Our pastor Esequias at the Juru Church is doing a great work with children and teenagers with the 'Bible and Ball'. Before each training session and match the team gather to hear his talk about Jesus. This project is an extension of our Action Schools. We are finding that many children remain linked to our schools after they finish their primary education with us – so we are doing activities like football to keep these kids and lead them to a relationship with Jesus. 'Sport in Action' is also being done at Flores, Barra de Oitis, Patos and Catolé.

The History of ACEV in Portuguese

The pastors, missionaries and leaders of ACEV (EAB's sister organisation in Brazil) met at the 85th National Convention in Campina Grande.

During the last evening Pastor Lindon Carlos ministered the message, talking about 'It's Time to Take Care of the Church' (1 Corinthians 12:27), highlighting how we should belong, get involved, and love. At the end of the evening John released his latest book 'The History of Evangelical Action - ACEV (1938-2018)' in Portuguese, a true treasure of stories, data, and a tool of encouragement for leaders and Christians.

All the leaders now have their own signed copy of the rich compilation of legitimate information, testimony extracts, and missionary letters sent as reports since the 1930s.



LUNCH!

Ana Clarice is one of the children at our Imaculada Action School. She is 3 years old and lives with her parents and 3 sisters.

She is a happy child enjoying good health despite her adverse family circumstances.

Her mother, Adriana, has mental health problems and often has to go into hospital for treatment. She has been in a hospital in Campina Grande twice already this year. Her father, Antônio, works on the town's rubbish collecting vehicle and earns very little. They survive off a government handout of about £100 a month.

One of our teachers went to Ana Clarice's house where the family were eating their lunch from a saucepan. All it contained was a mix of starch and sugar that had been boiled up! Such is the poverty of some of our children. The teacher took some photos, but he broke down in tears as he left the house, deeply moved by the poverty and struggle of this family.

Since this visit Ana Clarice has been sponsored and we have helped the family eat better. Please pray for this child and her family.



Blind in one eye, Manoel has lived on a smallholding near Green Pastures for 40 years. He used to be quite a character, drinking 'cachaça' (fire liquor) very heavily.

His family used to have hard times as a result of his drinking. Manoel was also known for not being trustworthy, to put it mildly!

Nevertheless, I used to share news of Jesus with Manoel and used to tell him that God could transform his life. I would invite him to our Gospel services at Green Pastures, sometimes he would go, but he would never commit his life to Christ. He was bound by the vice of drink.

One day I was driving along the dirt track near where he lived and saw Manoel ahead stumbling drunk along the way with a sack of beans and rice over his shoulder. He had been away from home for 3 days drinking.

I stopped my little 'Chevette' car, put Manoel in the front with me and put his sack in the boot. I drove to Manoel's little smallholding and delivered Manoel to his wife and family together with his sack of food. All the way along the track Manoel said nothing apart from thank you.

However, Manoel told me sometime after, that on that day he decided to give his life to Christ. Manoel had been impacted by a simple gesture of Christian love giving him a lift when drunk. For many years now Manoel has been a faithful follower of Jesus. His life was completely changed by the Gospel.

Nowadays you can be sure that Manoel will be the first to arrive at the services. He never misses and is always keen to sing a solo. He has a nice voice, sings in tune, and walks up to the front and launches into song.

The guitarist then does his best to find which key Manoel is in. But this is fine because Manoel is singing for Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit. That is what matters.

Thank you for praying for people like Manoel. His Christian daughter Leca, and her husband Francisco, now care for the day to day running of Green Pastures.

God still transforms lives today.



4-LEGS PROJECT

The 4-Legs Project aims to contribute to income and improved food quality for extremely vulnerable families in the north-eastern outback, through encouraging goat and sheep rearing. When donating goats and sheep to families we ensure they are healthy, and the new owners have been taught the best way of feeding and looking after them. Recently we left 8 sheep at Batinga dos Feitosa Community where people were so grateful.

We also recently left sheep at Fonseca community and at São Vicente do Seridó. Helping these poor people opens them to the Gospel as they experience the love of God in a very practical way.



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Christmas Gift Card Scheme

Accompanying this edition of InTouch are copies of the Christmas Gift Scheme with some new items you might like to support. Perhaps you could order some items as Christmas presents for special friends and family?

You will receive a card for each gift you order, to give to your friends and family so they know what has been donated to bless those in great need.

Last year we raised £6,030 for the various projects. It would be wonderful if we could match this sum this year!

Photocopies of the form will be honoured, as will orders emailed to missionmr@ntlworld.com when the correct finance is sent through the bank to our account at Lloyds Bank, Evangelical Action Brazil, Sort Code: 30-91-85
Acct number: 02385564



Make a difference with 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 - Account Name: Evangelical Action Brazil
Sort Code: 30-91-85 / Acc No: 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!

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