

# MEDICAL MISSION NEWS

Winter 2014



*Kenyan MMS Judith is a social worker, in Attat, Ethiopia. She works together with Women's Groups to improve their life situations and by this improving their health.*

Judith had a chance to attend a Cheshire programme on dealing with physically challenged children and was able to implement it in the village. Those who needed help, like wheelchairs, were able to get them. They are still doing follow ups. Judith also helps in the pharmacy.

Judith herself writes: “We have just recently celebrated the Meskal feast which is the “Finding of the True Cross. It is a big celebration where people come together to be with their families. From my own perspective, it is like Christmas season when we come together and share what we have as a family, community and with society at large”



***MMS Rita is a pharmacist in Holy Family Hospital in Techiman, Ghana and works in a new pharmacy there.***

Rita writes from Ghana about: **“My Ebola scare”!** Sometimes, it’s easy to think it’s out there, far away in Liberia, Sierra Leone or the DRC. Does it affect me? Definitely! I learnt it the hard way. After attending a programme in Kampala, I had planned to visit Kisumu about mid-way between Kampala and Nairobi. My flight was to leave from Nairobi so I planned to travel to Nairobi by bus but they would not even sell the bus ticket to me because I was from West Africa! They did not have the required Ebola Virus Disease screening set up at the border, so no entry! Finished!! I was stuck in Nairobi for two weeks because I was not allowed to travel inland. So let us not think it is “out there. It is very close and does affect all of us.



***Pakistani MMS Igenia and a health care worker give advice to brick kiln workers about their life and health.***

Up to 1.7million children from the age of five are working in illegal brick factories in Pakistan and are denied their basic right to a childhood, an education and play. Forced into labour by severe poverty, children work up to 14 hours a day with scarce food, no sanitation and little pay. With nearly a quarter of Pakistan's population living below the poverty line, many adult workers are forced to work in unsafe conditions too, with their most basic rights denied. With no breaks, no water and no hygiene, symptoms like diarrhoea, and diseases such as cholera are rife among workers. They work every day for the £3 a day, which, after essential expenses such as rent, may be just enough for one meal. Without any education - even the ability to read or write - they cannot move into other work. They are trapped in virtual slave labour and are unable to break the bonds of poverty.



*Indian MMS Jyoti works with a charity that supports homeless people and people who have been forced to sleep on the streets*

Jyoti has won a volunteer award for going out on night shifts and relating with people sleeping on the streets. She has a very compassionate approach. She is able to use her language skills because many of the rough sleepers are Indian and feel more comfortable speaking in their own language. Jyoti also goes with clients to appointments and supports them in their needs

#### OBITUARIES

Mrs C Boal, Middlesbrough,  
Mrs Joyce Rebecca Hender, Sheringham, Norfolk  
Mrs Catherine Devine, Altrincham, Cheshire  
Medical Mission Sister, Marcella McMahan

*Thank you for your support and concern. Please pray for Medical Mission sisters in Belgium, England, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, The Netherlands, Uganda, USA, Venezuela*

#### Contact Medical Mission Sisters at

109 Clitherow Avenue, Hanwell, London W7 2BL  
mmsukoffice@aol.co.uk

#### Visit our web site

[www.medicalmissionsisters-uk.org](http://www.medicalmissionsisters-uk.org)