

ACTION

YOUR GIFTS HELP PROVIDE CURES & CARE
DURING CORONAVIRUS!

EDITION 2, 2020

Your Coronavirus Updates

India & Nepal

Over 100 Years of Impact

Thank you!

Your Gifts Stopping Leprosy

Meet the makers!

Will you
give a little...

TLC

**Total Leprosy
Care?**



The Leprosy
Mission
Australia

EDITION 2, 2020

In this edition for you

- 3 Your message from the CEO
- 4 COVID-19 Relief & Response in India - thanks for your support!
- 5 Providing transparent face masks
- 6 Anandaban Hospital turns into a COVID-19 centre!
- 7 Coronavirus relief packs distributed
- 8 Your Gift in Will for the next 100 years
- 10 Shop to Stop Leprosy – meet the makers!
- 11 Your TLC – Total Leprosy Care – commitment form



Giving feedback or making a complaint:

You can provide feedback or lodge a complaint with us:

Telephone (Freecall): 1800 LEPROSY (1800 537 767)

Email: hello@leprosymission.org.au

Post: Feedback / Complaint, The Leprosy Mission Australia, PO Box 293 BOX HILL VIC 3128



The Leprosy Mission Australia

ABN 52 354 004 543 | ACN 067 616 193

PO Box 293 Box Hill VIC 3128 | Fax 03 9890 0550

Phone 03 9890 0577

Tollfree 1800 LEPROSY (1800 537 767)

Email hello@leprosymission.org.au

www.leprosymission.org.au



Follow us at

twitter.com/TLMAustralia or [@TLMAustralia](https://twitter.com/TLMAustralia)



Like us at

www.facebook.com/TLMAustralia



Find us on

vimeo.com/tlmaustralia



Find us on

www.leprosymission.org.au/youtube



Find us on

instagram.com/tlmaustralia



Find us on

linkedin.com/company/the-leprosy-mission-australia/



Find us on

pinterest.com/au/tlmaustralia



ACFID
MEMBER

Australian
Aid



The Leprosy Mission Australia ABN 52 354 004 543 (TLMA) is a member of the Australian Council for International Development and is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. The Code requires members to meet high standards of corporate governance, public accountability, and financial management. TLMA is committed to full adherence to the ACFID Code of Conduct. More information about the ACFID Code of Conduct may be obtained from The Leprosy Mission Australia website: www.leprosymission.org.au or ACFID's website: www.acfid.asn.au.

The Leprosy Mission Australia is an international organisation that works in partnership with governments, public health officials, non-government organisations, the World Health Organisation, churches, Christian partners and others to achieve its vision of a world without leprosy. The Leprosy Mission is the oldest and largest leprosy-focused organisation in the world today. The Leprosy Mission Australia complies with the Voluntary Code of Practice for Public Fundraising in Western Australia.



MIX
Paper from
responsible sources
FSC® C018183

This publication has been printed using an ISO 14001 environmental management system (EMS) and ISO 9001 quality management system (QMS) certified printer. The paper is Sumo Laser, an environmentally responsible paper manufactured under the environmental management system ISO 14001 using Elemental Chlorine Free (ECF) pulp sourced from well managed forests. Sumo Laser is FSC® Mixed Sources Chain of Custody (CoC) certified. This publication is fully recyclable.

Thank you for blessing the most vulnerable during coronavirus

The Bible teaches that Christian giving is an act of worship.

As the global coronavirus pandemic continues to spread, I want to **personally thank you** for your ongoing compassion for people affected by leprosy. You're truly following the example of Jesus who loves them too.

Your support of The Leprosy Mission during this difficult season has been critical. While life in Australia is slowly returning to normal, the immediate threat of coronavirus continues in many countries where we work. Restrictions here may have eased, but many people affected by leprosy still face the fear, stigma and disabling effects of disease.

Children and families living in poverty often have compromised immune systems and underlying health issues like malnutrition... **which makes them even more susceptible**

to diseases like leprosy and coronavirus.

The pandemic has highlighted the importance of early detection and prompt treatment for disabling diseases like leprosy. And while you and I have been self-isolating at home, leprosy-affected people know what it's like to experience ongoing isolation and stigma... sometimes for years. **Now coronavirus has only intensified their sense of isolation, stigma and fear.**

The pandemic has also placed an extra burden on our field workers. They have to treat and care for people with leprosy while navigating the real and present danger of coronavirus. In these pages, you'll find an update of how coronavirus has impacted the ministry in India and Nepal – and what your gifts are doing to help.

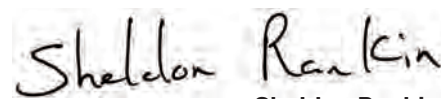


As followers of Jesus, you're demonstrating His love to the poor and most vulnerable in their time of need.

It's been a difficult season for us all... but especially for those affected by leprosy. In all this, I know God is good. I believe He is working everything out according to His divine plans.

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

– Romans 8:28



Sheldon Rankin

CEO, The Leprosy Mission Australia



SAVE THESE DATES IN 2020/21!

OCTOBER

Saturday 10
Annual General Meeting
(virtual meeting)

DECEMBER

Tuesday 1
Giving ShoesDay
(national Christian radio campaign)

JANUARY

Sunday 24
World Leprosy Sunday

To express your interest or register an event, email engage@leprosymission.org.au, call 1800 537 767, or keep an eye on the website for updates at www.leprosymission.org.au



You're helping to provide COVID-19 relief in India... *thank you!*

Your support is changing lives during this time of coronavirus. Your compassion and commitment to people affected by leprosy and disability is truly inspiring!

Underpinning this is your love and compassion. Modelled by Jesus and carried on today by The Leprosy Mission staff in India.

We have all heard the word "unprecedented" used an awful lot recently. The spread of this new virus is causing unprecedented difficulties in getting help to people affected by leprosy too.

Leprosy patients are struggling to get to hospital to access the treatment that they urgently need.

Health care in India is now focused on treating coronavirus. And this is putting an enormous strain on The Leprosy Mission Hospital's resources.

But your compassion and commitment

to people affected by leprosy is ensuring they receive the cure and care they need during this pandemic.

Our team on the field in India are committed to protecting those most at risk of coronavirus – those affected by leprosy and disability. They call it Virus Pe Vijay – or Victory Over Virus. And your caring heart and prayer are a blessing now more than ever.

A nationwide lockdown left many without work or income. This is tough even when you have no health issues... but it's even harder for those living with leprosy. Many don't have access to the good health care system, nutritious food and the technology we take for granted. And many already have compromised immune systems.

How coronavirus is impacting ongoing leprosy ministry

While dealing with coronavirus must be the first priority, field staff are working hard to ensure the core leprosy ministry continues... with your help!

- Hospitals are still accepting patients subject to social distancing rules. But self-help groups and outreach clinics to spot the first signs of leprosy have stopped since meeting in groups is no longer allowed.
- Multi-Drug Therapy remains available. It's vital to ensure those undergoing treatment do not stop taking this medication. Doctors are issuing extra doses so people don't have to visit as often to get their medication or in case clinics close.
- Staff are preparing to treat Coronavirus patients as well as educating people about the most effective ways to stop the spread of the illness.

Your Christian heart for God's healing ministry toward people affected by leprosy means they are not forgotten during this time. Thank you. You are amazing!



Our team in India have been providing coronavirus relief packages for those who have lost income including:

- Grocery kits containing dry rations, vegetables and daily essentials.
- Hygiene kits including masks, gloves, sanitisers and soaps.

They're rolling out protective measures against coronavirus including:

- Hospital visitors checked for fever to keep other patients safe.
- Making face masks and supplying them to leprosy-affected people.
- Education about hand hygiene, face masks and social distancing to stop the spread of the illness.
- Posters, banners, brochures and videos produced in multiple languages for display in hospitals, public places and social media.

You've helped provide transparent face masks for the hearing-impaired during coronavirus

What if you're required to wear a face mask to stop coronavirus... but you're hearing-impaired and rely on lipreading to communicate?

Traditional face masks make it impossible to read lips, which is crucial for the hearing-impaired to understand conversation. And even if you use sign language, you still need to lipread and see facial expressions to fill in the gaps in phrases, questions, responses and other linking terms.

After identifying this problem with hearing-impaired patients, The Leprosy Mission Trust India has produced a solution - masks with transparent mouth covers.

The see-through layer makes it easy for the hearing-impaired to read lips, while still preventing the spread of coronavirus.

Thank you for you not giving up on people affected by leprosy.. You've helped relieve the isolation of coronavirus for the hearing-impaired! They can experience God's love because of you.



With transparent face masks, the hearing-impaired can read your lips AND stay safe from coronavirus!

TAKE ACTION

You can help support ongoing leprosy ministry through an India Sponsorship. Just \$45 a month helps to cure leprosy, treat ulcers and deal with crises like the pandemic.

Call 1800 LEPROSY (1800 537 767), visit www.leprosymission.org.au or tick the box on the back page and mail the form to us!



TAKE ACTION

You can help bring healing through a Nepal Sponsorship. Just \$45 a month helps to cure leprosy, treat ulcers and help leprosy-affected children and families during the coronavirus outbreak.

Call 1800 LEPROSY (1800 537 767), visit www.leprosymission.org.au or tick the box on the back page and mail the form to us!

Anandaban Hospital transforms into Coronavirus centre

Thank you for not forgetting people affected by leprosy during the pandemic. Without your support, they may not experience God's love through the care they receive.

Your amazing Christian heart is essential to God's healing ministry toward people affected by leprosy. God bless you for so faithfully supporting leprosy patients at Anandaban Hospital in Nepal. With the global pandemic, this long-running hospital has become a focal point not only for leprosy treatment but also for treating coronavirus.

In fact, The Leprosy Mission Nepal

has asked the government to designate Anandaban as an official centre for coronavirus management. Your gifts and prayers at this time have been vital to continue the important work of helping people affected by leprosy through the self-care unit during the outbreak.

To date, the hospital has taken the following actions to deal with coronavirus:

- Setting up an isolation ward within the emergency room and providing personal protective equipment (PPE) to protect hospital staff on the frontlines of treating coronavirus in Nepal.
- Running a fever clinic with Rapid Diagnostic Testing (RDT) and Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing both available to detect and confirm coronavirus cases as fast as possible.
- Ongoing stocks of sanitiser, masks and disinfecting soap needed to distribute to patients and people affected by leprosy living on the grounds of the hospital.

The pandemic has highlighted many of the issues common to both leprosy and coronavirus. Overcrowded, unsanitary conditions lead to higher risk of contracting both conditions. And both also require early diagnosis and treatment.

The hospital staff at Anandaban know that your heart is with them as they go that extra mile in faith. As they're ministering to people and showing that God loves them.

Even in the midst of the pandemic, God is there working in people's lives... with your help! Thank you!



Remember Alina?

Her face lights up when she talks about dancing. But foot drop and ulcers from leprosy put an end to that... for now. Thanks to you, she had another operation to fix her foot. She hopes to dance again one day!

At just 16 years old, she's excited to be supporting the vision of No Child with Leprosy by 2035. Like you, she wants to help other children with early detection and treatment of leprosy to stop permanent disability.

You're continuing the fight against the stigma of leprosy!

When Sarawati's own father died from leprosy-related complications, her grandfather declared it was a curse and a judgment.



So it's no wonder this young girl kept her own leprosy a secret from her family. She covers her face when talking about it.

"I don't like to think what people would say if they knew. It is very scary for me."

Saraswati was just a child when she first developed leprosy but it took 6 years to get an official diagnosis. By then, the patches on her leg were so bad she could barely walk.

Forced to drop out of school, terrified people would reject her, trying to keep her leprosy a secret – Sarawati felt so alone. And just like those with coronavirus, she self-isolated. Not for two weeks or a month. **But for years...**

But when she arrived at Anandaban Hospital, she immediately felt welcomed and loved. Finally, she

had found a place where she could be accepted and receive the medical treatment she urgently needed.... **thanks to supporters like you!**

Although outreach clinics to find cases of leprosy can't continue during the pandemic, we need to be ready to deploy them again as soon as restrictions are lifted. To diagnose and treat more young people like Sarawati. And to prevent ulcers and disabilities – and even amputations.

Even during the pandemic, your amazing commitment to people like Sarawati means that they are getting the medication they need. You're ensuring that staff can continue to take care of patients at the hospital.

Now Sarawati doesn't need to live in fear of rejection! Thank you for helping to fight the stigma of leprosy.

Coronavirus crisis relief distributed to 400 leprosy-affected households... because of your compassionate heart!

Rice, cooking oil, vegetables and dry goods... this crisis relief will help leprosy-affected families in Nepal who have lost livelihoods due to lockdown restrictions.

Families also received health packages with sanitiser, face masks, soap and COVID-19 information leaflets.

Amar Timalisina, a board member of The Leprosy Mission Nepal and president of leprosy organisation IDEA Nepal, is **so grateful to you** for

making it possible to reach so many families with crisis relief.

"With your prayers and support, IDEA Nepal reached around 400 households of people affected by leprosy throughout Nepal with emergency relief packages.

Praise The Lord!

"We didn't only distribute the relief but also provided the peer support to them. They were so happy to receive the packages. **We were so blessed to**



see the smiles on their faces even in this pandemic.

"In the beginning, I didn't expect we could reach so many households. **Everything is possible in God's eyes!**"

Thank you for faithfully following Jesus and remembering those affected by leprosy in great need. Your caring heart is such a blessing. Crisis relief has been given to leprosy-affected families who have lost livelihoods during the pandemic. Thank you!

Could eradicating leprosy be part of your legacy?

Thank you for being there for people affected by leprosy. Just as Jesus reached out and touched the lives of these people, you're doing the same with your prayers and support. You've turned despair into joy for a family who thought their child was cursed. You've given people with ulcerated feet the chance to walk again. You've helped cure so many who would otherwise be left living with a treatable disease!

Today, we ask you to consider leaving a legacy of a world without leprosy. The timeline on this page shows what can be achieved through decades of prayer, dedication and finance. The founders of The Leprosy Mission are long gone yet their work continues to make a difference. Your Gift in Will could do the same!



1847 Foundation

The ministry you support begins with Wellesley and Alice Bailey (above) in the UK. They start The Mission to Lepers after witnessing the devastating effects of leprosy on people in India. Their childhood friends, the Pim sisters (Charlotte Pim right), pledge to raise £30 a year to help these people.



1888 First Hospital

The Mission's first hospital opens in Purulia, West Bengal. It's still one of The Leprosy Mission's flagship medical centres supporters like you help to this day.



1913

Australian Office Opens

The Leprosy Mission opens its doors in Australia, thanks to supporters who had the same heart as you all those years ago. The work spreads to China, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and across Africa.

1940s

First Leprosy Cure

Dapsone becomes the first effective cure for the less virulent form of leprosy, revolutionising the work. It's kind Australians like you who supported this treatment and helped cure of millions of patients.



1950s

Pioneering Surgery

Pioneering surgeon Dr Paul Brand (above) develops life-changing reconstructive surgery techniques. Thanks to your support, his techniques are still used today to restore mobility to the hands and feet of people affected by leprosy.

1960s

Further Expansion

The Leprosy Mission Australia starts supporting projects in Papua New Guinea, Thailand and Nepal, where the new Anandaban Hospital is opened.

1970s

Australian Pioneer

Sydney surgeon and missionary Dr Grace Warren AM worked with people affected by leprosy in Hong Kong, Korea and India over many decades. She learned surgical techniques from Dr Paul Brand and pioneered self-care treatments for ulcerated feet. Of the many honours she received for her work, her favourite was the Star of Pakistan, awarded in 1972 by a Muslim country to this woman of Christian faith.



2010

Hidden Leprosy Cases

New leprosy case numbers are down to 250,000 or less per year, from a peak of over 1 million. But the stigma of leprosy lingers. Concern remains over the many hidden cases of leprosy and those at risk or left with disabilities. We're still finding these cases with your ongoing generosity!



2020

50-Year Milestone

So much has been achieved but still millions suffer from leprosy. Australian missionaries Trevor and Heather Smith clock up 50 years of working with leprosy-affected people at the McKean Rehabilitation Centre in Thailand. Bless you supporting them with your prayers and finances.

1980s

Breakthrough Leprosy Cure

The new Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT) cures people with leprosy in as little as six months. The generosity of Australian supporters like you helps to roll out MDT programs with millions treated. With so many successful cures, attention turns to self-care and self-help programs for people left with disabilities due to leprosy.



2000s A World Without Leprosy?

The number of leprosy cases is at its lowest ever point – thank you for being part of this great achievement. The concept of a world without leprosy starts to look real and is adopted as a global vision in 2005.



1990s

Princess Patron

As official patron for The Leprosy Mission, Princess Diana had a true passion for the work. It was one of the few charities she retained in 1996 when she reduced her patronage of almost 100 charities down to just six. She made headlines when she touched people affected by leprosy – against the advice of royal officials.

TAKE ACTION

God took the commitment of the Baileys and the £30 pledged by the Pim sisters in 1847... and made it grow to help millions of people affected by leprosy.

The Baileys and Pims are no longer with us. Yet their legacy lives on in each person affected by leprosy helped today. If you're interested in having an impact that lives on like theirs, please contact Tim Collison on 1800 537 767 about leaving a Gift in Your Will. Or tick the Gift in Will box on the back page, mail back the form and we will contact you.

2035

No child with leprosy?

With a Gift in Your Will, you can be part of this vision to find, diagnose and treat children who are most vulnerable to leprosy! The goal of No Child with Leprosy by 2035 is part of the Triple Zero Leprosy Strategy to eradicate leprosy forever.

Support leprosy-affected artisans with an early start to your Christmas shopping

Shop to Stop Leprosy this Christmas! You will give people like Sanjali a chance to support themselves.

It's never too early to buy Christmas cards! And in this age of digital communications, a handmade card is a beautiful and personal touch with any gift.

When you buy cards from the Gift Catalogue, you help artisans like Sanjali to earn a living.

Sanjali developed leprosy at age 12 but only began treatment two years later. She joined the New SADLE family, which provides leprosy treatment and training in handicrafts and sustainable jobs. So people affected by leprosy can have their own livelihoods.

You can buy your early Christmas cards by visiting www.leprosymission.org.au/product-category/stationery-greeting-cards/

Today, Sanjali has scars all over her face and body from leprosy. But that doesn't stop her from making the stunning greeting cards you can buy from The Leprosy Mission Shop and Gift Catalogue.

She's very proud of being able to support herself through her work at New SADLE. The income you help her make supports her three children. Her oldest daughter, Sanju, hopes to study nursing when she finishes school. When you buy Sanjali's handcrafted items, you help her achieve this dream!

TAKE ACTION

To order the Christmas Gift Catalogue with Christmas card packs and the latest range of items, tick the Christmas Gift Catalogue box on the back page and mail the form back in the enclosed envelope. Or visit www.leprosymission.org.au/shop to place your order.



Your purchases provide an income to people like Radhika too – scan the QR code or go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yas4d5zz>



Thank you for making it possible for Sanjali to live independently – buy a Christmas card pack today.

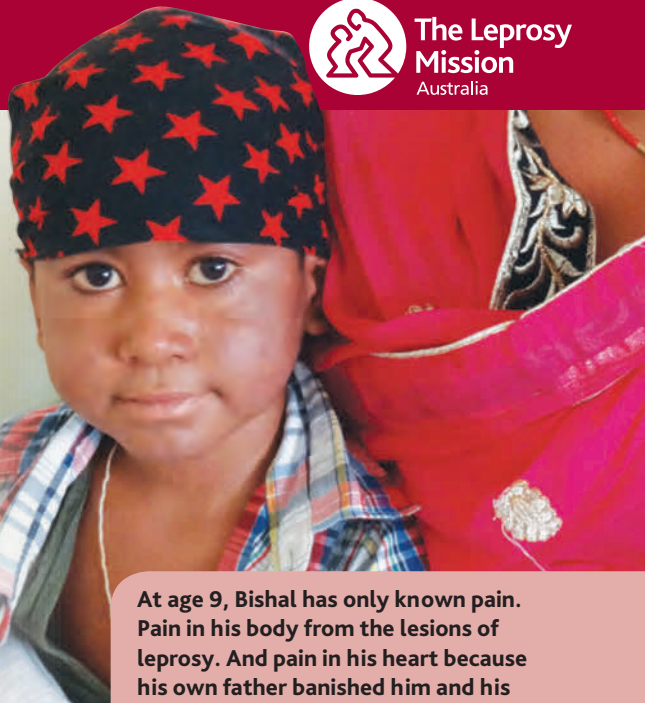




YES! I will give a little TLC today!

I want those like 9-year-old Bishal and his mother to receive Total Leprosy Care. This includes:

- **Curing leprosy** through Multi-Drug Therapy
- **Care and healing** through reconstructive surgeries and complications during leprosy treatment
- **Fighting stigma** so those like little Bishal and his mother receive support not stigma.
- **Training and microfinance support** so a mum like Bishal's can earn a living and be independent



At age 9, Bishal has only known pain. Pain in his body from the lesions of leprosy. And pain in his heart because his own father banished him and his mother from home... all because of this "disgusting" disease. Please give a little TLC today for mother and child who urgently need Total Leprosy Care.

I will commit to: (please tick)

- ☐ \$30 a month to give Total Leprosy Care to one child like Bishal!
- ☐ \$_____ a month towards Total Leprosy Care!
- ☐ \$60 a month to give Total Leprosy Care to a mother and child like Lalsari and Bishal!
- ☐ \$360 annually.

Sorry! I cannot commit to TLC. But please accept my one-off gift of \$_____ to help cure one person like Bishal today!

My contact details: INSERT REQUIRED FORM FIELDS

☐ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Miss Name: _____
FIRST NAME LAST NAME

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ P/code _____ State: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

My payment details: INSERT REQUIRED FORM FIELDS

☐ **Cheque / Money Order** (My once off / upfront donation) payable to The Leprosy Mission Australia

☐ **Credit Card** (My monthly gift processed on the _____ of the month)

Please charge my ☐ **regular gift** or my ☐ **once off / upfront payment** to:



Card Number: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Expiry Date: ____ / ____

Direct Debit
also available!
Call us today for
your documents!
1800 537 767

Send back your completed form to: The Leprosy Mission Australia, Reply Paid 83988, Box Hill, VIC 3128.
Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.

THANK YOU for your commitment to Total Leprosy Care today!

Ways to take ACTION during coronavirus!

TAKE ACTION!



Bless you for so faithfully praying and giving to The Leprosy Mission Australia.
We can't do the work of this ministry without you.

Please tick any statement below that is true for you.

- ☐ I follow Jesus Christ. By His example I reach out to people affected by leprosy and disability.
☐ The Bible teaches that Christian giving is an act of worship.

Tick the areas that interest you below and send it back to us.

I would like to:

1 GIVE FINANCIALLY

- ☐ **My gift of \$** _____ **to follow Jesus' example and help people**
affected by leprosy and disability during coronavirus!
- ☐ **Total Leprosy Care** – please complete the form on page 11 (over page)
- ☐ **India Sponsorship** – \$45 a month to support the ministry in India
- ☐ **Nepal Sponsorship** – \$45 a month to support the ministry in Nepal

☐ I enclose my Cheque / Money Order payable to The Leprosy Mission Australia **– OR –**

☐ Please charge my Credit Card: ☐  ☐  ☐ 

(My monthly gift processed on the _____ of the month)

Card Number:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Name on Card:

Signature:

Expiry Date:

				/				
--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--

Direct Deposit / Online Banking:

The Leprosy Mission Overseas Relief Fund account: BSB: 013225 No: 297114729

In the reference field enter: SURNAME 21ACTIONBBC

Please email notification of payment to: hello@leprosymission.org.au

THANK YOU

Thank you. We are so truly blessed to have supporters like you. Whatever you can give is gratefully accepted.

2 PARTNER IN PRAYER

- ☐ **Keep in Touch** – the monthly KIT with Australian prayer notes and news
- ☐ **ASK 2021 Diary** – international prayer guide

3 PLEASE SEND ME

- ☐ **Gift in Will** – The guide How to include The Leprosy Mission Australia in my Will
- ☐ **Christmas Gift Catalogue** ☐ **All Catalogues**

4 My Contact Details: ☐ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Miss

First Name		Surname	
Address		Suburb	
State	P/code	Phone ()	
Email			

Send back your completed form to: The Leprosy Mission Australia, Reply Paid 83988, Box Hill, VIC 3128.
Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.

Privacy Statement — Your personal details will be stored on our secure database and will not be passed onto a third party.
See www.leprosymission.org.au. If the area of need becomes funded, your gift will go where it's needed most.