

engage

DARE TO ENGAGE IN GOD'S MISSION

New Zealand Report | JUNE 2024

Leave a Lasting Legacy!



We honour the lives of Joyce and Brian Towse (left) and Vernon and Erica Harrison (right), who left legacy-gifts to AONZ.

We all want to leave a legacy. We want the faith that we nurtured in our children, to continue on through generations. We want the toil of our present labour to bear fruit in the future. God wired us for eternity, so these desires make sense! I'd like to highlight a special way that you can leave a legacy, which you might not have considered yet. It's called "legacy giving" and it simply means, setting aside some funds in your will, to be donated to your nominated charity. I'm honoured to share with you the stories of two wonderful couples who, when their time on earth came to an end, left behind legacy gifts to Asian Outreach NZ.

Brian and Joyce Towse lived generously and kept busy helping others. Brian would often tend the gardens of older ladies who weren't physically able and he enjoyed singing to elderly folks at retirement homes. Meanwhile Joyce was always knitting for people-in-

need overseas. They both saw and experienced a *lot* in their lives. Originally from the U.K, Brian was an air-gunner in World War II and even spent a couple of years in a concentration camp! He and Joyce moved to Nelson in the early seventies, where Brian worked on the telephone exchange. They fostered many children in their home over the years and always wanted to make a difference for those less fortunate than themselves. That was evident in their will too. Brian succeeded Joyce by a few years and was in his nineties when he passed away in 2019. We are so thankful for the gift of this incredible couple and feel privileged that they entrusted us with investing it into the lives of others, on their behalf.

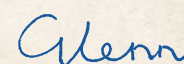
Another couple I want to honour, is Vernon and Erica Harrison, who lived in the same home in Palmerston North for 60 years and passed away in their mid-eighties. They took a keen interest in

missions throughout their lives and were known to always have Asian Outreach pamphlets on their table. "Loving, giving, knowledgeable, enthusiastic and positive" are just a few words that family use to describe them. Vernon owned a tree nursery and it was there that he met and fell in love with Erica, who was working in the office. They were people of service who quietly helped behind the scenes. Vernon set up the Financial Freedom Trust and they assisted many struggling families into their own homes and imparted financial management skills. They led home-groups and prayer-groups and also supported a Messianic group in Israel for many years. Erica even learned Hebrew! Their legacy continues to live on as we invest their legacy-gift into advancing God's kingdom.

In our later years of life, as our earning-potential decreases, naturally so does our capacity to donate. Some people find it disappointing to enter a season of life where their giving tapers back. But there is a time for everything. And this season could be a time to plan how any remaining funds are invested at the end of your life. If you've been inspired by the Harrisons and the Towses, consider including a gift to Asian Outreach NZ in *your will* too. It's usually as simple as adding a sentence under the guidance of a solicitor or trustee company.

One of our key priorities is to keep overheads low so that as much money as possible can go towards breaking the poverty cycle and making disciples in Asia. You can trust us to invest your gift diligently and in accordance with your wishes. Find out more about legacy-giving on our website (www.asianoutreach.org.nz/legacy-giving/) or email me, glenn@asianoutreach.org.nz

Blessings,



Glenn Carter,
AONZ Director



Deputy Governor of Nalaikh District

The number of juvenile crimes in the district has decreased by 20% in the last three years since LifeSkills has been in schools.

School Principal

I observe more respect, compassion and support for others, in the way students greet each other, respect each other and help others.

LifeSkills Student

I started to communicate more with other students and stopped lying to my mother after I attended LifeSkills training.

LifeSkills Parent

There have been more chats and calls to me from my child. I have been wondering what is going on. Now, I realise it's LifeSkills.

Mongolia's Nation-Transformation!

Imagine a land far far away, where government leaders are hungry for bible-based teaching in state schools. Sounds like a fairytale? Well this is Mongolia right now. It's a window in history, for us to reach a generation of children and families with biblical truth, in a country that is not founded on Christian values. We're doing this through our LifeSkills Values Education programme, taught since 2013 to 12,400 students in 21 state schools so far.

When communism fell and missionaries entered Mongolia, they found only a handful of Christians in the whole land! It's just amazing to think that only 34 years later, our LifeSkills teachers are now being welcomed into Mongolian state schools to talk about Christian values like honesty, self-worth and respect. These concepts are resonating deeply with Mongolian children because they come straight from our heavenly Father. In New Zealand we take for granted concepts like treating others how you'd like to be treated (the golden rule), and the need to forgive, because our nation was founded on Christianity.

But in Mongolia (a country hampered for decades by communism, where many still haven't yet even heard of Jesus), biblical truth is not organically passed down through families. However, biblical truth is now gaining momentum to radically transform a new generation.

Parents, teachers and principals are testifying to the changes they are noticing in their young-people who've had LifeSkills lessons. The governor in one region is even attributing a decrease in juvenile crime in the area to youth participating in our LifeSkills programme. But although schools (and even the education department) are hungry for values-education, they're not funding it. Mongolia is still a developing nation and the impact of the LifeSkills programme will be lost without partnership-investment.

We want to give more Mongolian students the opportunity to hear biblical truth in their classrooms. So, we've committed to helping our partners teach the LifeSkills Values Education programme to around 2,600 students this year! That involves expanding LifeSkills into new territories and training

more teachers, which together is going to take around \$25,000! It's a BIG figure, so we're asking for donations of every amount! Can you give \$10? Or can you give \$10,000? Or something in between? Powerful things happen when we, the church, combine our resources towards a shared vision.

Jesus said: "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matt 19:14). Mongolian children were hindered for decades under communist rule. Now that the tide has turned, let's join forces so Mongolian children can hear messages of God's truth in their classrooms!

This programme is not just about making kids behave "good". Our dedicated LifeSkills teachers are committed to nurturing relationships with students and taking every opportunity to connect families with Asian Outreach's other ministries and with church-communities. For example, one little girl Sura (pictured right), confided in her LifeSkills teacher about her mother's heavy-drinking habit. She shared how she gets left alone with her siblings for days



at a time, without enough food. Our team then visited Sura's home with a food-box and prayed with Sura's mother. Her mood lifted and she opened up about her abusive relationship and how she has struggled with alcoholism since losing her baby boy during child-birth five years prior. She asked if she could come to church. This anecdote demonstrates how our LifeSkills teachers are using the programme as a bridge to discipleship.

Would you like to become part of God's nation-transformation story in Mongolia? Use the donate-details in the box below if you can help fund the expansion of LifeSkills this year. And please support this ministry with prayer so that nothing would hinder the children of Mongolia from coming to Him!

Donate to LifeSkills in Mongolia!

Account: 01-0434-0091261-02
Reference: "LifeSkills"

More info & credit card donations:
www.asianoutreach.org.nz/lifeskills

Social Media Highlights

We'd love to share snippets of news and photos with you more frequently! Find us on Facebook and Instagram: search 'asianoutreachnz' and click 'follow'!



Pray for Anthony, Dale and their three boys (or we should say, young men) – our kiwi missionaries serving in Malaysia amongst migrant worker communities.



Thanks to all who donated to our Assisting Children to School (ACTS) project in rural Cambodia! We reached our fundraising target because of your generosity! With ACTS, families like this will get their roofs repaired so students can stay dry and healthy!



Kiwis from Tauranga Elim Church had a wonderful and productive time connecting with AOC staff on their trip to Cambodia. They kept busy with practical tasks and ministry! Mission trips are so valuable for encouraging local teams and opening our hearts to the challenges faced by other communities – win/win!



Students from Jireh Christian School busy with their heads down, writing words of encouragement to persecuted believers in India. This Open Doors letter-writing exercise is part of our Mission Minded Kids course, along with many other fun and engaging activities.



That SMILE! This is Sothy (16 years) – a rural Cambodian boy who is smart and learns quickly. But his academic potential nearly went to waste when his parents pulled him out of school. Thankfully kiwis stepped in the gap and sponsored Sothy through the ACTS (Assisting Children to School) programme.

LET YOUR LEGACY OUTLAST YOUR LIFE!

Find out more about including AONZ in your will.

glenn@asianoutreach.org.nz /
021 833 582

www.asianoutreach.org.nz/
legacy-giving



Asian Outreach
New Zealand

Direct deposits can be made into either of these ANZ accounts:

NZ Office Support: 010434-0091261-00 Overseas Project Donations: 010434-0091261-02