

## WELCOME TO THE NEW BMS WORLD MISSION BIRTHDAY SCHEME NEWS BULLETIN FOR 2023!

We hope you like the refreshed format and that you'll enjoy reading the enclosed stories of the exciting work you've made possible through your support of the BMS Birthday Scheme.



You'll be pleased to know that you can now order PDF versions of the news bulletin and the Birthday Scheme cards which are suitable to be read by screen readers. If you would find these helpful, please do contact your Birthday Scheme Co-ordinator. We hope this makes the BMS Birthday Scheme even more accessible for those who want to make a difference on their birthday!

Thank you again for choosing to be a blessing to others on your special day. If you have any feedback on the updates to the Birthday Scheme, contact us at [birthday@bmsworldmission.org](mailto:birthday@bmsworldmission.org) or phone **01235 517609** – we would love to hear from you!

## "THIS IS MY LAST PIECE OF CLOTHING."

Anush delivered her baby two months early at her home in a remote Nepali village. But a week after the birth, she fell ill and kept fainting. Her husband knew he had to get her to hospital – fast.

It took them four hours to make it to the nearest bus stop, with Anush's husband carrying her on his back, and their nine-year-old daughter carrying the baby. And then it took another 11 hours on the bus to get to the nearest hospital.

When they finally arrived, Anush's only words before she fainted were: "Please do not tear off or throw my clothes away. This is my last piece of clothing."

After an examination, doctors determined that she needed an immediate blood transfusion. Staff at the hospital donated their blood and, thankfully, Anush began to recover.

Not only were the team able to save Anush's life, they also offered her and her family free food and free medical cover. Thanks to your generous gifts to the BMS Birthday Scheme, people in desperate need are receiving life-saving medical care in Nepal. And most importantly, Anush's children won't have to grow up without a mother.



Photo: Thanks to you, Anush's children don't have to grow up without a mother.

## FEEDING FAMILIES IN UGANDA

Rising temperatures and longer dry seasons in Uganda have made it harder than ever for Jennifer and her husband to provide for their children. But BMS supporters are helping change that.

Thanks to a farming project you supported based in Jennifer's local church, she's received agricultural training so she can grow enough crops to feed her family. "I looked at the project and knew it would help to change our lives," she says.

Through the farming project, Jennifer has learnt to grow watermelon, beans and groundnuts that she can use to feed her family and sell to earn a profit. She's used the extra money she's earned to pay for her children's school fees, and to buy a goat so she has more ways to keep supporting her family.

"Christians in the UK should continue to pray for us as we work to transform our lives," says Jennifer. "Thanks for supporting us through BMS World Mission."



Photo: You've helped Jennifer feed her family.



## FIGHTING THE ODDS TO SAVE ZAHRA

When baby Zahra\* arrived at Guinebor II Hospital in Chad, she was extremely malnourished and dangerously anaemic. Despite the odds, the BMS-supported team would stop at nothing to help her.

BMS pharmacist Claire Bedford dropped everything when the call came for an urgent blood donation. Claire learned she was a match for Zahra and was able to donate half a unit. Being so small, Zahra was only able to take 10ml of blood at a time, but after a long night, her haemoglobin levels were stable.

She was referred to the malnutrition clinic at the hospital, where she was given fortified milk to get her weight up, and her family were given advice and support to make sure Zahra stays healthy.

*\*Name changed*

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The Baptist Missionary Society: registered in England and Wales as a charity (number 1174364) and a company limited by guarantee (number 10849689).



Photo: You're helping fight malnutrition in Chad.

## YOUR GIFTS CAN CHANGE LIVES



£20

could help three hospitals in Nepal provide crucial medical care for people in remote communities.



£29

could support a nurse in Chad for two days as they care for malnourished children like Zahra.



£46

could pay for a week's agricultural training to help farmers in Uganda put food on the table.

## YOU CAN SAVE LIVES!

More ways to help some of the most vulnerable people in the world.

Your commitment to the BMS Birthday Scheme is changing lives and sharing God's love far and wide. We know you're committed to making sure people in desperate situations get the support they need, so we thought you might be interested in some more ways that you can have a greater impact through BMS ministries across the world:

**Encourage your church family to sign up for the BMS Birthday Scheme** – if you know people at your church with a heart for mission, get them to sign up!

**Become a 24:7 Partner** – you can give as little as £3 a month and make a huge difference to people all across the world. To become a 24:7 Partner, go to [www.bmsworldmission.org/partners](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/partners) or call Hannah on **01235 517610**.

**Leave a long-lasting global legacy** – choose to leave a gift to BMS in your will, and your generosity will touch lives for generations to come. For a free legacy pack with information about leaving a gift in your will, call Tabea on **01235 517634**.



# Birthday scheme

NEWS BULLETIN 2023



OPEN TO SEE HOW YOU'RE SAVING LIVES!

