

OACI UPDATE

Reports from the Frontline Ministry of
OPEN AIR CAMPAIGNERS INTERNATIONAL

OACI IS AN INTERDENOMINATIONAL MINISTRY OF EVANGELISM COMMITTED TO PREACHING THE GOSPEL TO THE UNREACHED THROUGH OPEN-AIR AND OTHER OUTREACHES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CHURCH.

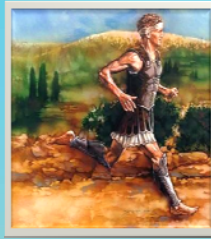
A Word From The OAC International President...



**Rob George proclaiming the gospel
in Surfers Paradise, Australia**

Over the years many thousands of tourists would have stood right where this crowd is standing for snapshots under the iconic 'Surfers Paradise' sign on Australia's Gold Coast. But this night they stood there for a far better purpose - to hear the glorious Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

What a privilege our evangelists have in over 30 countries to preach the Gospel! For over 120 years our staff have gone into the highways & byways, announcing the message of victory over sin through faith in Christ. At the time when the New Testament was written the word *evangelizo*, meaning "to bring good news," referred to the proclamation that a battle had been won. Sometimes this news was sent, not only to the victorious King (who would not be on the front line and relied on a runner to bring news) but also to the losing side. The announcement was not always greeted with great joy!

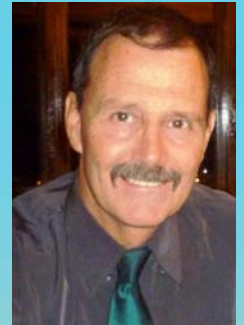


How apt to describe what we do in OAC: some who hear choose to come under subjection to the rightful King, some want to think about it further, some scoff and reject the message. (Cf Acts 17:32-34)

So apt, too, to consider that the Ephesians 6 armour of God pictures the Gospel of Peace, as the shoes on the feet. We cannot announce the Good News without first going to the people. In this our purpose has not changed over the years, although at times our methods do.

We trust that you will enjoy reading the short reports in these pages and rejoice over seeing the photos of crowds and individuals, as OAC continues 'proclaiming Christ, by all means, everywhere.' Thank you for helping to make it possible through your prayers and gifts. Your partnership in the Gospel is a vital role in our ministry.

Rob George
OAC International President



Jesus said: But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and A CLOUD hid him from their sight. Acts 1:8-9

Jesus previously said:... the gospel must (and will) first be preached to all nations (and then the end will come)... At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in THE CLOUDS with great power and glory. Mtt 24 & Mrk 13

PLEASE CONSIDER PARTNERING WITH OPEN AIR CAMPAIGNERS, TO HELP BRING BACK THE KING, AS WE BRING THE GOSPEL OF THE KING TO EVERY CONTINENT, AND KEEP OUR EYE ON THE SKY

(SEE INSIDE HOW OACI GOSPEL MINISTRY COVERS THE EARTH LIKE THE CLOUDS)

You heavens above, rain down my righteousness; let THE CLOUDS shower it down. Let the earth open wide, let salvation spring up, let righteousness flourish with it...Isaiah 45:8

AUSTRALIA Two teams were at work in Halls Gap over Easter and doing an amazing job. The numbers of people attending the programs were more than we have seen in some years. Team members came to give but went home receiving so much more. At the first program there were people everywhere and murmurs that they had all come for the draw of a raffle. The team were getting worried that they would have to deal with an unruly mob if they found out there was no raffle. Towards the end of the program the Park Management came and asked if our clown (who gathered the kids) could draw the ticket to their fundraiser for the Children's Hospital!



NEW ZEALAND Like many countries, we have developed a big outreach emphasis in markets. Not all will allow you to set up a sketch board. At the Auckland Royal Easter Show, we run as a bookstall. Having raided the Christian second hand bookshop, we feature Bibles, books on parenting, marriage and various other life issues. We sell a few, but more importantly, we do hundreds of surveys with people as an opportunity to share the gospel with them. Over 70 people received follow up material.



SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS For more than 20 years OAC has been involved in evangelism work in the South Pacific in countries like Vanuatu, Fiji, Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa, Tonga, PNG, Tuvalu and the Solomons. Fiji is the only established OAC branch at this point in time but there is certainly an open door in all these countries in proclaiming the gospel in the outdoors and schools as well as equipping and mobilising the local Christians in effective evangelism. International Evangelist Robert Siakimotu from New Zealand makes regular visits to all these countries.



INDIA There were no Christians in a small mountain village where OAC held an open air meeting back in 2003, but the seed of the gospel was planted. In 2013 our evangelists returned for another meeting. The next year a church was planted from the fruit. The photo shows 70 attending the morning service. That night 80% of the village came (200) to watch our Christian film and hear the preaching. The pastor of the church had women put special Assamese scarves around the necks of our evangelist's as a gesture of their gratitude to OAC for bringing the gospel to their village. One lady half way through the film came to the pastor and said, "I want to become a Christian. How can I?" Soon she was praying with our Assamese evangelist to trust Christ as her Savior. The Lord is building His Church in India.



FIJI Open Air and regular children's ministries continue with good progress. Staff are based in several centres. In the West, Samu has 'spread his wings' wide, preaching not only in Lautoka City but also in other towns and beaches. In the Central Division, Eroni continues faithfully and has commenced night preaching using the black light. Permits are now required for city centre preaching, so please pray that municipalities will consider re-applications favourably. The establishment of the School of Evangelism (SOE) in the past three years has given rise to a greater awareness of the ministry among the people. It is expected that a good number of evangelists will attend the SOE this year.



...I looked, and there before me was A WHITE CLOUD, and seated on the cloud was one like a son of man with a crown of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. Then another angel came out of the temple and called in a loud voice to him who was sitting on the cloud, "Take your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." Rev. 14:14-15

ALBANIA In Albania our large staff team are involved in many forms of outreach including the open air and other ministries. Recently they were involved in a professional (but performed by amateurs including 40 youth) dramatic presentation of the story of Joseph, adapted to Albanian with the emphasis on the forgiveness and restitution in that family. National Director Ian Loring's son played the part of Benjamin. Over 1000 people attended in Korce and they were invited to the National Arts Theatre in Tirana, the capital, where over 500 attended and they were given rave reviews! The prayer and dedication to God of the performers was evidenced in that it really touched people, as many were in tears at the end. The message of forgiveness (not revenge which is in their culture and blood) seemed to touch their hearts. We have also found the involvement in productions like this to be a great discipleship tool as many youth who were on the edge get very involved and committed to Christ as a result. Praise The Lord!



ROMANIA OAC is the only Christian organization doing work in public schools in Romania. God opened a big door for that and we cannot go to all the places that want us. We are also short of volunteers to do it so please pray for more people to be part of it. We reach over 5000 kids with every puppet tour we do. We have two every year.



RUSSIA Because God granted a newer ministry van, we were able to do more outreach trips than ever, mostly for prison outreach where we proclaimed the Good News to the inmates. Usually we had teams of young people from local churches helping. In present day Russia you do not see many prisoners praying (photo), but these people showed great interest in the Gospel. Those who really wanted to change their lives after being released came to us and asked to be put in Christian social rehab centers to learn more about God and a proper lifestyle. We also continue our regular monthly student meetings during the school year called "Anti-Narco" (anti-drugs), and very often their parents and teachers are present. We also present Jesus Christ as the answer to these problems. During Summer time Mikhael holds open air meetings on the Black Sea shore promenades with the sketch board, preaching to tourists and others about Christ. He also visits Children Summer Camps to bring Good News to the kids.

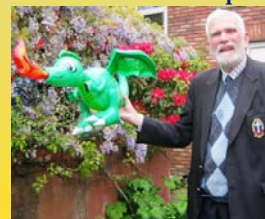


UKRAINE Anatoly was with the huge crowd in Independence Square (Kiev) serving in a prayer tent when the war began. Men would put down their guns and pray with him. Many Gideon's New Testaments were given out. On the day when 85 were killed, he took two bullets in the back of his borrowed bullet proof vest as he rescued a nurse who had been shot. Anatoly is now a voluntary army chaplain. He has the opportunity to minister to whole battalions (from 400 to 2,000 soldiers), but mostly his chaplaincy is spent with small groups of soldiers who want to talk about God. Anatoly says, "So many hearts are open to God and the Bible, including the battalion commander." He and his wife Yulia collect food, water, medicines, etc., which he takes to the front line. The mayor of the town where he lives sent a van with him full of supplies. They also meet with widows to minister to them, and help where needed. Please pray for them.



INTERNATIONAL EVANGELIST KORKY DAVEY - ENGLAND

Korky was asked to go to the Head's (Principal's) office after a school assembly last month. His heart sank as he thought maybe he was going to be told there would be no more opportunities to speak there, and he'd been having a really good time with the students, and a very positive response... however, it was just to thank him for his input over the last ten years or so, and that he is one of the most popular speakers visiting the school! A real encouragement. It caused huge amusement in April when he'd been asked to talk about St. George and the Dragon, and waited in the foyer with his dragon on his knee. A good laugh is always a good start! He told them a bit about St George, and then about a couple of youngsters we know of in **Albania**, who had seemingly insurmountable problems to face - but with the Lord's help, were rescued and set on the right path. "Is there a dragon in your life?" he asked... And they were very thoughtful, many saying "Amen" at the end of his prayer. One girl came up to him after the presentation and said "Thank you. You have really opened my eyes."



In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with THE CLOUDS of heaven. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion...his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. Daniel 7:13-14

FRANCE OAC Associate Peter Kent has been evangelizing with OAC in France for over 15 years. Supporting him is a growing team of regular volunteers who join Peter at one or more of the weekly open airs that take place in busy parts of Paris. Peter is also frequently contacted by churches both in Paris and from all over France asking for training and/or more information about OAC and its work. Every year Peter organizes and leads a week-long mission that takes place in the streets of Avignon during the world famous theatre and arts festival in July. During the warm evenings the crowds listening attentively to the sketch board presentations can easily number above 100. OAC's work in France expanded last year (2014) when Peter (former National Director of our work in Great Britain) and Alison Kennelly responded to a call from the Lord to go, live and work there.



NORWAY In Norway we experience that many of our foreigners are interested in the Gospel. We have now regular open air meetings in an area of our capital Oslo where we have people from all over the world, including many Muslims. One day after an open air preaching many people wanted to talk with us. Andreas in the middle of the photo is talking to another person and many others are listening. We know that the living word we plant in people's heart will not fail. Pray that many may repent and trust Christ.



GREAT BRITAIN 'A Sideways Look' provided our theme at the Brighton Festival Fringe. Based on the evocative photographic exhibition with biblical topics created by National Director Marten Holmes, it was held in the Royal Chapel. Hundreds of people went to the exhibition. Marten offers photographic interpretations of master paintings. His stunning photography and text definitely help contemporary audiences to re-think spiritual issues. For example, the prodigal son photograph emphasises the elder son who, although he remained with his father, had no real communication with him. Such unusual approaches led to further discussion with visitors. "This opened my thinking to relevant issues", "fantastic" and "thought provoking" were some of the comments received. While the exhibition was open, around the corner some



50 yards away, open air programmes took place. Local churches were involved in providing music and drama. OAC evangelists presented short sketchboard painting talks which also attracted crowds. Team members also gave people leaflets to invite them to the Chapel Royal exhibit. "The two outreaches worked well together and caused people to think and consider serious issues," commented David Fanstone, an OAC Senior Evangelist.



BELGIUM

Every week National Director Ben visits ships in the Port of Antwerp. Beginning 20 years ago, many leaflets, Bibles and DVD's of the life of Jesus are given out. Sometimes we do not see any result, but other times there are many good conversations, especially after a short presentation with a Gospel Magic trick. On the ships we meet people from all over the world, from Russia, China, India, the Middle East (Muslims), Romania, the Philippines, etc. Over the years Ben has handed out hundreds of Bibles in many languages, and prayed with sailors, such as Angelito, from the Philippines. Angelito now runs a Bible study group on every ship he sails.



SPAIN It was a great joy to have the support of the 2015 Mission Possible teen team coming from the States to reach out in central and southern Spain during a particularly hot summer. You can read about their ministry at <http://mpspain2015.blogspot.com.es>



Thus says the Lord: "I have swept away your offenses like A CLOUD, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you." Isaiah 44:2

GERMANY About 220 children experienced "Miki-Day" 2015 in Niederndorf, learning how important it is to be a witness and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. For some years we have been cooperating with other mission agencies at the **Mission's Kids Day** to make missionary work at home and abroad understandable for children. We pray that the kids will be courageous witnesses in their own places and that some of them may become missionaries themselves.



ECUADOR We were in the city of Banos (3 hours from Quito) and set up the sketchboard in the main sidewalk of the city. Immediately the police tried to stop us, but we persuaded them to allow us to continue. People stopped and listened. Then came a funeral procession carrying a coffin, walking slowly in front of the board. God planned precisely the time in the message in order that they could hear the hope that the Gospel gives. We could not have planned a better time, but the sovereign God does. The Lord sent us to go to a very remote community of Indians. The travel included a flight, then a truck, then a canoe for several hours, and finally we walked under a very hot sun for one and a half hours on a very damaged road. When we finally arrived exhausted, we found a group of children receiving classes. The Lord strengthened us and the teacher allowed us to preach. How great God's love for these kids that He brought us so far to show these precious souls just how amazing and glorious is His Son Jesus Christ.

Praise the Lord!



DENMARK During the summer Torben had the opportunity to go to a youth camp. Many of the young people came from difficult backgrounds e.g. from broken families and families with alcohol problems. None of them came from a Christian background. It was a privilege to speak to these young people. Visuals like the sketch board and Gospel magic captured their attention and God spoke to them through the Gospel message. The response was positive and now some of the young people want to go to a Christian fellowship in their home towns.



BRAZIL We are extremely touched by what the Lord has been doing here! At an Elementary School a coordinator did not seem much in favor of our ministry, but her supervisor authorized our work and set a day for us. When we arrived on the scheduled day, the coordinator attended us and it was obvious that she still was not open to what we had to offer. We began our Gospel presentation and at the end she came up to us in tears, sharing her story with us. She told us about some of the problems in her family and we could clearly see that the message & timing was perfect for her, and God was clearly talking to her. We shared with her one on one and prayed with her. It was a wonderful experience. Even when we focus on a specific group (in this case little children) the Word of God penetrates the hearts of everyone who is listening. We always have teachers raising their hands as a sign that they are surrendering their lives to Christ. Praise the Lord! Please pray that the doors in the school in Brazil continue to stay open to proclaim the message of the cross! These days the schools are our main harvest field.



PERU 30 years ago David Wilson went to Peru to train churches in open air evangelism. Many attended and preached together in the plazas to large & responsive crowds. David was looking for the man to be our pioneer evangelist to start an OAC branch, but none seemed called. Recently however, one of those trained (Samuel) contacted David and begged him to return. Samuel was still using our method. What joy it was to meet Samuel again and others whom David had trained or knew. Some had become pastors and Bible College teachers. They told David that many of those trained had continued on for several years reaching thousands. The ministry of OAC was held in high esteem. Today Peru is still in harvest with responsive crowds in plazas and public schools. Samuel is fulltime establishing OAC Peru in partnership with local churches.



Therefore, As the rain and the snow come down from heaven (CLOUDS), and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish,...so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:10

BOLIVIA The doors are totally open in Bolivia! Everywhere we look we see opportunities, even in Indian tribes! We had a team from Brazil in January and in one of our meetings in a downtown plaza, a family of Indians received eagerly the Word of God. The local pastor that was working with us, then talked to them and invited them to the Church. The next day at the Church we could not believe it, as not only the family that was in the plaza came but many more family members (a total of 14 people)! So, they made an invitation for us to visit their tribe. We kept visiting them doing outreaches in the tribe and saw a Church born in that tribe! The Indians said that they wanted a building for the church, and would go to the jungle and get the wood and leaves to make it! Praise the Lord for this fruit!



MEXICO OAC exists not only to do evangelism in the streets, but to train other evangelists to do the same. During the month of April this year we had the opportunity to visit for the first time the city of Zacatecas in central Mexico. The purpose was to give practical training and outreach with Zacatecas Bible Church. Humberto Antonio is one of the pastors of the congregation, and the Lord has given him a tremendous desire to preach in the open air. 3 months after our visit they still continue preaching in the streets of that city where less than 3% of the population is evangelical. We continue to pray for the Lord to raise up obedient workers to proclaim the glorious message of the cross in the streets.



BAHAMAS In the Bahamas we have the potential to reach hundreds of students in the public schools, yet value highly the worth of going to parks where many young people meet. After conducting a six week evangelism training course with students of Galilee College, OAC members Ted and Ethel led the newly trained team out to a basketball court for a divine appointment. A clear sketch board message was presented by Kim, a student, then twelve teenage lads prayed to accept Christ as Savior and were counselled. The College team described the training as a "life changing and very rewarding" experience.



PARAGUAY In Paraguay the OAC ministry is working very well, reaching large numbers in schools and other places. Our staff often use their musical talents to great effect. Felipe and Hernan have had some wonderful experiences, especially in the schools. Recently a school Principal was left impressed with the program and four teachers made decisions for Christ. Then a student who was taking drugs to sell at the school, came up front and gave his life to Christ. To God be the glory!



JAMAICA When Overseas Ministries Director David Wilson visited recently, we had a very busy time of ministry, mainly in the country. On some days, we conducted up to four school programs. Even on David's last morning, on his way to the airport, we stopped to conduct one more! These efforts allowed us to speak to over 10,000 individuals, and see many of them pray to accept Christ as Saviour. An email was recently received from OAC in the United Kingdom. After conducting a school devotion, a teacher excitedly approached our staff man. The teacher explained how he had received Jesus as Saviour in Jamaica, through the ministry of Open Air Campaigners and a man named Keith Phillips. He wanted to know if the OAC UK man knew such a person! Praise the Lord for all that HE has done!



Then the LORD came down in THE CLOUD and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD... proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness,.. Ex. 34:5-6

AMERICA (USA)

In ever increasing numbers, folks from other countries are coming to our doorstep. Sharing the gospel with these folks out in the open air in their homeland would be dangerous and even illegal in many cases. But here in the USA, God gives us an open door of opportunity and our staff step through these open doors on a daily basis. One week, our Boston branch of OAC kept track of all the countries represented as they shared Christ with individuals. They reached people from Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, England, France, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Pakistan, Puerto Rico, Russia, Spain, Turkey, and Vietnam, along with many Americans!



A LITTLE BIT OF SWITZERLAND IN WYOMING (USA NATIVE RESERVATION)

Last month AJ came to our Bible Study at the Honor Farm. (Minimum Prison Facility in Riverton, Wyoming—USA) He was all smiles when he looked at us – we could not figure out why. Then he blurted out: “You guys are still serving here – I remember your Creation Science lectures and awesome Bible Studies from 24 years ago! I was out, but messed up again. Man, am I glad to have the opportunity again to study God’s Word!” It is such an encouragement to see how God is using OAC’s ‘Sowing Ministry’! Truly some plant, some water and He gives the increase!



CANADA

The Lord has put together an experienced multicultural evangelism team in Toronto, one of the most multicultural cities in the world. Amongst our volunteers is a Nigerian immigrant and his 18-year-old son, an ex-Buddhist Chinese lady, an ex-Muslim Arabic man, a couple from the Caribbean, and our National Director’s son, Nathan (pictured) and many others, who faithfully preach and reach others for Christ. We just finished our PAN AM games outreaches in Toronto and had three ladies come to faith in Christ right on the street. The outreaches are not limited to the streets, we spend equal times ministering in the parks, tourist areas, and nearby beach vacation areas, as well as speaking at many summer VBS programs. Recently seven kids came to Christ at one of these.



Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great CLOUD of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes upon Jesus, who, for the joy set before him (of saving people), endured the cross...Heb. 12:1

KENYA A crowd of about 400 came to watch the life of Christ film. Children were sitting in the front, when suddenly one child screamed and jumped up as she felt a snake climbing on her. They said it was a deadly Puff Adder. Thank God it fell to the ground before it could strike. Moses, our OAC Director, took a big stick and killed it. The film was continued, and a message preached. The presence of the Lord came down, and many prayed to trust Christ as Savior. A few days later the local pastor told us that the villages had been experiencing great difficulties, and there was a lot of hatred. The people had never seen a snake come into a crowd before, and when Moses killed it, they saw it as the power of God overcoming the power of evil. The pastor said how the people and area had changed. More had come to his church and five were converted. People were arranging prayer meetings, calling for the pastor, stopping the hatred ... all believed that they had truly seen God at work.



UGANDA I am happy to report to you that the work of evangelism in Uganda is going on well with a number of churches and para-church organizations opening doors for us. This has enabled us to reach even the fishing villages on the islands in Lake Victoria and in the north-east of the country to the nomadic warriors of Karamoja Region, commonly known as castle-rustlers. This area was previously hostile to the gospel and for a long time it has been the most underdeveloped part of Uganda. The picture shows Moslem fishermen from the Ssesse islands who came in a canoe from a neighbouring island just to disrupt our mission but they all went back converted! Our Open Air Campaigners boat, which enables us to get to these islands, is in the background.



OAC ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

The OACI website and Facebook ministry is an important vehicle for us to communicate basics about our branches, plus news and prayer items. The web is largely static information, while Facebook is updated several times a week. We are always excited to get pictorial reports from around the world and can pray for those on the front line all the better. But occasionally we have prayer items of more concern, as staff deal with illness, or even physical attack while preaching. Please pray for the renewal of the website, which has been delayed due to changes and ill health on the team. With your prayer support we hope to launch it in 2016.

Check us out at: www.oaci.org and OAC INTERNATIONAL on Facebook.

OACI also has active ministries or branches in:

Austria - Greece - Hungary - Italy - Switzerland

Like clouds bring refreshing rains to thirsty soils all over the earth, so OACI Gospel outreaches bring Christ's living water to thirsty souls around the world.

"Preach the Word; be ready in season and out of season." 2 Timothy 4:2

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OAC NATIONAL BRANCH, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE,

www.oaci.org

TO FIND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR OUR NATIONAL BRANCHES OR INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

OACI has tremendous opportunities for you to be involved in national and international Gospel outreach for Christ. Volunteer workers are essential in each branch. **Summer and other short-term mission trips** and training seminars are tremendous experiences in serving the Great Commission cause of Christ and developing witnessing skills and freedom. Perhaps God may be calling you to be an OAC missionary evangelist! Also, supporting our National and International staff and/or branches makes you a significant part of their Gospel sharing ministries, leading many to find their way into God's Kingdom.

