



# How old?

My friend Elizabeth was at my place giving me a cooking lesson. In Burkina Faso they eat a lot of leaves from various trees, and I wasn't sure how to use them. We mostly spoke in French, but also in Dioula (the language I'm learning). I asked her (in French) if it was OK in her culture to ask somebody their age. She said yes, so I asked, "OK then, how old are you?" She told me that she was 72! I thought maybe she'd made a mistake and meant 62... but even that was hard to believe. I then said in Dioula "72?" She replied, "No, 39." We both laughed because usually it was me making the mistakes. Then she asked how old I was. I told her that I'm 37, & said it in French and Dioula to make sure she understood.

French has two forms of "you"; one is more polite and formal and the other is used between friends. Until that day we'd both been unsure what form to use. I'd figured that she was older than me so I should use the formal version, but because she did



Emily and Elizabeth with food to go

my housework perhaps I could use the informal. Elizabeth usually used the polite form to me, but I felt a bit uncomfortable (being an egalitarian kiwi). So finally that day we got it sorted - since we're the same age, we can use the friendlier version.

Emily Hillary

WEC operates in 11 countries in Africa. If you have an interest or questions about any WEC fields, please contact us on Ph: 0800 46 46 86; Email: info@wecnz.org

# Why I came to Eastwest College

As a teen I felt a mission call and tested the waters with some short term trips. Wishing to pursue this further I started working full time while preparing to go to South Africa.

However I met a young man from S A and he discouraged me. I set aside my call and disobeyed God. This was a difficult time and finally sinking into despair, I realized I needed to put God back in my life. I quit my job, ended a relationship and moved away, praying for God to guide me. I dreamt about a missionary that my home church supported and felt I should email her. She invited me to come and assist her - I spent 8 weeks in Ethiopia helping with reaching out to young prostitutes; bible studies for victims of rape and recovering drug

addicts; visiting shelters for abandoned babies; and helping with programs in local orphanages. I was in love again .... with Africa.

It was hard to come home but as the plane touched down I realized I needed to train and be equipped for future work. So God led me to Eastwest College- I had a vision of studying in a field with maize on my right and a tea plantation on the left!

My time here has been incredible - being ministered to and disciplined. But God is speaking again about going - South Africa has come back into focus again.

Kim Cox



Kim Cox in Kenya

**WEC International**  
reaching people planting churches



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# Diary of a Newbie

I arrived in Chad on the 24th of April 2011.



Stepping out of the plane I was hit by a wave of hot air. It felt like sunburn. Riding from the airport to the mission's compound I was surprised to see nice buildings and paved roads. I expected to see mud

houses and dirt road. The streets are crowded with cars, motorbikes and people. I'm amazed to see how many people, sheep and goats can ride on a motorbike and how many people fit into a taxi van.

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- Why I came to Eastwest College

# Diary of a Newbie (continued)

## Cultural Adjustments

There are many cultural differences. For one I had to learn to use my right hand for giving and receiving things, because the use of the left hand causes offense. The left hand is used for the dirty things. I had to learn how to use a squatty toilet. It's not as simple as it may sound. How to balance yourself over the small hole, while at the same time get your aim right. Instead of using toilet paper you use a small plastic water jug to clean yourself afterwards. In Chad men and women don't eat together, not even in families.

Chadians aren't very time oriented. Things happen and plans change. I'm trying to keep a schedule for my studies but people turn up and I have to be flexible with my time. Sometimes I wait for a visitor who never turns up.

## Making Real Progress

A year later we're in hot season again. Low water pressure and not much city power (no fans) add to the struggle. The heat drains me of my energy and slows me down. I am very thankful for the progress I've made since I first came. I am now able to contribute in a conversation and to understand much of what's being said. I am able to communicate. People are gracious and often we laugh about mistakes and misunderstandings.

When I first arrived it took me some time to become bold enough to venture out. I wasn't used to seeing men wearing a turban and long robes and



Preferred mode of transport

women in their head to toe coverings. There were so many people in the streets. Some were sitting by the side of the road chatting and drinking chai, doing nothing. 12 months later, I've learnt my way around town and how to use the taxis and vans, how to squeeze in and to be squeezed in between people and sometimes animals. I can do my shopping in the market and talk to people.

## Challenges

The field asked me to come to Chad sooner than planned because of changes in personnel. We are a reduced team which meant that I soon needed to take up team responsibilities and help out with administrative tasks. These were factors that made language learning more difficult. Language was a source of frustration because I wasn't able to communicate with the people around me. To be hospitable and to build relationships is important to me. As I get to know more people I also spend more time with visitors. It is difficult sometimes to balance my time. Interruptions happen often.

Adapting to a new culture and life style and learning language was a challenge. Support and encouragement from people back home is very important during this stage. Sometimes I missed hearing from people back home. Their words of encouragement and the assurance of their continued prayer are very valuable to me.

## Getting on

Not only are there cultural differences and stresses between me and my host culture. I am part of a mixed team. People do things differently, have a different way of communicating and expressing themselves. This can cause miscommunication and create confusion. Besides the Chadian culture I also have to learn our team culture in order to fit in. Our team as well as other workers – mostly expat – meet every second Sunday for international fellowship. It is very encouraging to see people from many different countries serving here and sharing the same goal.



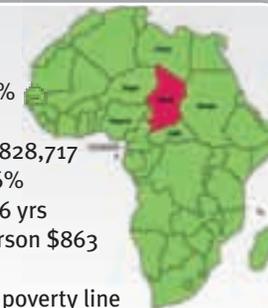
Fitting in

## Why I'm here

When I first arrived in Chad I was introduced to Mark, a serious seeker of the truth. He spoke good English. I was given the task to continue to disciple him. We read together, I was able to visit him, to encourage him and to be his friend. Five months ago I had the privilege of baptising him. Together we prayed for a job for him for many months. Two days ago he signed his working contract with a Christian NGO. What a joy to see God answering our prayers and the prayers of people overseas. I thank God for allowing me to see a person, who grew up a Muslim, became a follower of Christ and how God is leading him on in his spiritual walk. It is exciting to see seekers coming to us and to see their desire to learn more about the truth. We're limited in numbers and I am not fully confident in the use of French yet. Indeed, the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.

TT

- Population at 2010 11,506,130
- Annual growth 2.81%
- Density 9/sq km
- Capital N'djamena 828,717
- Pop under 15 yrs 46%
- Life expectancy 48.6 yrs
- GDP income per person \$863 (2% of USA)
- 80% live below the poverty line



Chad Facts



Getting a helping hand

# Step out of your comfort zone

Last summer, WEC Trek UK sent a team serving the poor and witnessing to God's saving love and grace in South Africa, at the Melusi Christian Community, four hours drive from Durban.



The Team

They experienced the wide fluctuations in temperature of a South African winter, an interesting and sometimes unusual diet, and faced up to their apprehension about reaching out with the gospel to people from a very different culture. They were also deeply touched by the gratitude of those they worked among; formed relationships of genuine warmth across boundaries of race, class and culture; and learned the truth of the teaching in Isaiah 58: "if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday".

## The work of a Trekker

The Trekkers' days at Melusi were varied and never dull, involving a range of activities to reach out to some of the neediest people at the centre and surrounding communities:

**The Care for the Sick:** the care centre at Melusi treats patients who are seriously ill with conditions like HIV and TB. Many come to the centre to die. One desperately thin 37-year-old man touched the hearts of last summer's Trekkers when he asked them to pray that he would live to see his children.

**Education** - The centre also trains local people in caring skills, giving them qualifications and job prospects.

**Help the addicts** - Melusi provides residential accommodation for around 12 individuals, usually men with drug or alcohol addiction. They receive food and coaching in life skills and perform jobs around the community.

**Community Outreach** - WEC Trekkers are involved in all kinds of outreach work in the surrounding community: running a Kids' club and crèche; going into schools; helping with open air meetings; teaching English; delivering food parcels; holding Bible studies.

Anxieties about how the local people would react to Trekkers' efforts to share the Gospel evaporated when they saw how receptive people were. At one open air meeting at a taxi rank, where Trekkers sang, preached and performed mimes, some locals danced, some came forward for prayer, and there was a festive spirit in the street. Door to door evangelism also held surprises, as people were so welcoming. One team member gave her testimony and was amazed to find how openly listeners shared their own experiences and how much they had in common.

## Learning on the job

At Melusi, God makes use of a wide range of skills: from music making and children's work to gardening and DIY, but as well as using skills they bring with them, Trekkers take away much from their experiences. Making the effort to empathise with those from another culture encourages respect and admiration for the fabulous diversity of God's people, while living in community and responding to the needs of others helps team members to grow in love and service. But above all, stepping out of their comfort zone and learning to live by faith in unfamiliar territory teaches Trekkers to trust in God for everything - a lesson which stays with them for the rest of their lives.



Helping out Melusi patients

## A spot of sightseeing

Life on WEC Trek is not all work, although at Melusi an astonishing amount was achieved in such a short time. Trekkers used a free Saturday to go on safari to a game reserve where they saw giraffe, leopard, wildebeest, monkeys, zebra and a baby rhino with its mother. A two day stay in Durban on the way home allowed team leader, Wayne Robinson, to indulge his passion for surfing, while others went off to explore the local markets.

## Why not join us?

If anything you have read has inspired you or awakened a dormant spirit of adventure, then contact WEC International.

You too could be a Trekker call 0800 46 46 86



Art or...

- Population at 2010 50,492,408
- Annual growth 0.99%
- Density 41/sq km
- Capital Pretoria (administrative) 1,428,987
- Population under 15 yrs 31%
- Life expectancy 51.5 yrs
- GDP Income per person \$5,685 (12% of USA)
- Unemployment 26.7% (may be much higher)



South Africa Facts



Kid's club

# SITSVACANT

## Chad:

**Guesthouse host/hostess.** 1 year + **Qualifications:** Enjoy and have experience of giving hospitality. Willing to live simply. Unafraid of sunshine. English language essential, French desirable.

## Long term worker:

**Min:** 5 years to the long suffering Massalit people straddling the border of Chad and Sudan. Need to learn first local Arabic and then Massalit language. There is a wide range of possible types of ministry (e.g. development based, educational, direct evangelism, medical, and so on). **Qualifications:** French, some knowledge of Islam, folk Islam, and church planting strategies. Practical experience in other parts of the Muslim world a big advantage. Some knowledge of Arabic would be a real bonus.

## Dentist:

**Minimum:** 3 years to develop a mobile dental service for people who have never had access to dental care. Applicants will be expected to acquire a good level of Chadian Arabic which they will learn in Chad before and during term of ministry. **Qualifications:** Experienced dentist, able to bring equipment and supplies. Ready to network with others. A good level of French or Arabic. A readiness to learn about cross cultural ministry essential.

## Senegal

**Bourofaye Christian School:** Help needed with maintenance/teaching/catering/nurse/admin... Check the website for current vacancies. [www.bcs-senegal.org/](http://www.bcs-senegal.org/) **Minimum:** 1 year

## Gambia

**Worker:** **Min:** 1 year available to do anything needed! Building work and maintenance, painting, computer work, assisting in clinics, etc. **Qualifications:** Start as soon as possible

**Accounts Assistant and General Office Worker:** Knowledge of computer-based accounts systems plus MSWord, Excel, Powerpoint, etc. **Qualifications:** Starting as soon as possible.

These are just a few examples among numerous possibilities to serve with WEC teams. For more info visit [www.wecnz.org](http://www.wecnz.org) or call us at 0800 GO INTO

More Info

# NZoutlook

## WEC 99 not out

Next year will be WEC's centennial year called WEC100. WEC began in 1913 by famous English cricketer CT Studd in Congo with the Heart of Africa Mission. We want the centenary to be a time of celebration, renewal and of sharpening our focus on the unreached.



WEC will be 100 not out in 2013

WEC is giving bikes to 100 pastors and 100 books to 6 Bible Schools in Congo. There is a trip in February 2013 on 150cc motorbikes through some of the densest jungle in the world tracing the steps of CT Studd. And if that's not your thing, we are planning a prayer walk in Congo from 18 January to 1 February 2013 helping to celebrate the church's centenary there.

Worldwide, WEC is releasing *Living on the Edge* a new book telling 100 WEC stories of trusting the LORD. There is also a companion volume written by WEC children telling their own stories of faith.

"Not to us, not to us, but to your name be the Glory, because of your love and faithfulness" Psalm 115:1

Jock & Cathy have 8 children and 6 grandchildren. Happily married for 30 years, they still like dinner dates, family, reading and Bethany the dog.



Jock & Cathy



**\$7**

## WILL YOU PRAY ?

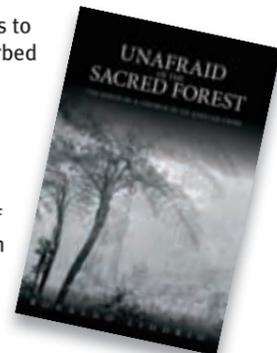
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Please send cheque made payable to MARN with order.

# Unafraid of the Sacred Forest

The amazing story of how God used a Brazilian couple to bring his Good News to the Konkomba people of Northern Ghana. The Konkomba are largely undisturbed by the modern world – a foreigner is someone from a village five miles away; there are only six days in a week and no such thing as a year; polygamy is a virtue, and marriage may be based on swapping your sister for your bride. Witch doctors have traditionally held great power and influence over these people, who live in fear. Unafraid of the Sacred Forest is a very easy read of how God is calling the Konkomba people of Ghana to himself, freeing them of their bondage of fear. Ronaldo Lidorio shares their story so that we may be in awe of what God has done.

Unafraid of the Sacred Forest is available from our office for \$12 plus p&p – drop us a line if you would like to order a copy.



## Eastwest Block Courses Coming Up:

<p><b>Tools for Language Learning</b></p> <p>November 12-30</p> <p>Leslie Foster (Wycliffe Bible Translators)</p> <p>&amp; Lyn Woodford (Eastwest College)</p> <p>Cost: \$790</p>		<p><b>Children in Crisis Module 2: Street Children</b></p> <p>November 19-28</p> <p>Graham and Becky Bee &amp; Wendy Dezan (International Co-ordinator ROH)</p> <p>Cost: \$265</p>
<p>Fees include tuition, course materials, lunch &amp; tea breaks.</p>		

To register and/or make enquiries please contact Eastwest College: 0800 896 477; email: [info@eastwest.ac.nz](mailto:info@eastwest.ac.nz)