

# DOWN to EARTH

Emmanuel International UK News  
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## FEBURARY 2016

## EIUK CONFERENCE AND AGM 2016



This annual event took place on Saturday 6 February 2016 in City Temple, London. What is the conference all about? Well, it is one of two informative social meetings of the EIUK family every year. We meet up and catch up with each other's lives and enjoy each other's company.

We like to make this more than a social event and we also have speakers to talk about their role in EI's work. Bernard Lane, EIUK Board Member, opened the proceedings with a message that calls all Christians to be missionaries, "putting feet on the Gospel".



**Bernard Lane starting the day with devotions**

Tom Edom, who was on furlough, filled us in about the work that he is doing in Pader, Northern Uganda: Pads Ministry and the Deaf. Tom explained the way in which they provide primary school girls with the knowledge and tools to manage their menstruation so that they will be able to stay in school. A very important part of the pads ministry is the message to the girls that they are 'hand-knitted by God', and that they are loved and valued. In a society where girls don't often hear this message, it has a great impact to hear that they have value and a role to play. The Deaf are also often forgotten and, by Tom coming alongside them and supporting them with friendship, they are also finding their own value in the community. Tom returned to Uganda a few days after the conference to continue his work. There are plans to expand the Pads Ministry to reach more girls, and Tom will work closely with the board to facilitate this.



Linda Fitzmaurice, Molly Graham and Heather Haywood, who were on the summer team to Ibumu, Tanzania last year, talked about the effect of the trip on the people of Ibumu and on the team members. It was a wonderful experience, which is having long lasting effects - truly life-changing!

John and Christine Raby worked in Zomba, Malawi for two years and have returned home to the UK in December 2015. They gave an overview of the work that EI Malawi is doing (some of which can be seen in the article following), shared some of their own experiences and photographs.

Martin Paisley talked about his visit to his daughter in Malawi last year. She did not go out with EIUK, but they have a close relationship with Paul and Helen Jones and have a keen interest in the work that EI is doing in Malawi.

The Annual General Meeting took place after a delicious lunch.

Please join us in the summer for our second social event this year!



**Tom Edom talking about Pads and Deaf in Pader**



**John and Christine Raby talking about their time in Malawi**



**Linda, Heather and Molly and the summer team presentation**



**Martin Paisley on his daughter's time in Malawi**

# El Malawi: Enhanced Community Resilience Program

This department does a lot with communities on preparation for disasters and what to do in the event of a disaster.



An *ngokwe*, a traditional maize storage facility with a new touch (metal around the legs to keep the rodents out).



First Aid training. We also provide very basic first aid kits to each community



Rebuilding 184 homes destroyed in floods (to date 160 one room homes have been built)



Water protection bund to slow down the flow of water in riverbeds and flood-prone areas



Ladies working on a bund construction



**Tree nurseries**



**Drought resistant sweet potato**



**Drought resistant cassava plants**

## Fuel Efficient Stoves

There are 2 different types of fuel efficient stoves: The round, free standing ones are called *mbaula* and cook hot with only 3 pieces of fire wood which burn for quite a while. The participants learn how to mold them, how to kiln them and then hopefully sell them.

The other type is one built right into the kitchen. It is meant to be in an area where there is good ventilation and cross-draft so less smoke is inhaled. People from one of our programs really liked these and you can get them built in lots of homes. People are instructed and build the stove themselves. They are also very fuel efficient.



**Dates for your diary**

**Board meeting: 20 May 2016**