

JULY 2019

Heather Taylor's Pacific Row

Who is Heather Taylor?



Heather is the youngest daughter of Els and Brian Taylor. Els is the daughter of Emmanuel International (EI) founder, George Middleton, and Brian is the longest serving staff member of EI Canada.

Heather's childhood was spent playing hopscotch on the coloured tiles of the EI office floor where her parents worked to serve the rural poor in East Africa, Haiti, Brazil, and the Philippines. As an adult, she has spent time in Haiti and Malawi with EI and lived in Indonesia for several months when doing her postgraduate research.

She grew up loving the water. When she first tried rowing, she discovered a sport that was worth getting up at 4am for.

Heather's mission

Heather is aiming to row 2,100 nautical miles (3,890 km) across the Pacific Ocean.

Starting from Monterey, California in April 2020, Heather will not see land for 60 to 90+ days until she arrives in Hilo, Hawaii.



Armed with 120 days of rations, a water maker, and three sets of oars, she'll be on her own until she arrives in Hilo on the Big Island.

More people have been to space or climbed Mt Everest than have crossed an ocean in a rowing boat. Unless someone else gets there first, she'll be the first Canadian to complete a mid-Pacific row, and the first Australian to do it solo.

The reason

We can all do something about the injustices we see.

There are many reasons why someone would choose to row across an ocean: to seek a challenge, to escape the rat race, because they're crazy or just because they can!

"The idea to row an ocean for me has been like a little seed that was planted and slowly took root. Despite the disappointment of not one but two successive teammates pulling out from joining me, the idea has dug itself in even deeper. I never thought I'd be doing this, and I certainly didn't think I'd be doing it on my own. Yet somehow, here is where I am.

While I love being out on the open water, embracing the thrill of new challenges, I know these motivators will only carry me through a few days on the untamed ocean. At the heart of it I know - and I will remember on Day 43 when the waves are 30 ft high and all I want to do is sleep - it's not about me.

I believe that I have been put on this earth for a reason: to love mercy, act justly, walk humbly with my God, and to love my neighbour as myself. My life might so easily have not been one of privilege - I could be living in Yemen right now, where my mom was born. I have met others who have not shared my privilege and as far as I can tell, we're not that different from one another. We can all do something about the injustices we see. Rowing an ocean is certainly not the only way to do it, but through it I am hoping I can make a small drop in a very large ocean."

The Charities

Heather has chosen Emmanuel International and Tear Australia to support through her Pacific Row.

El United Kingdom

Any funds raised through the UK will be allocated to support the girl's menstrual health/pads project. This project aims to help keep girls in school by providing them with menstrual hygiene resources (i.e., reusable pad or cup) and teaching about menstruation but also to teach girls they are fearfully and wonderfully made by providing them with a Biblical understanding of creation and how God values women.

The project has been running for some time in Uganda, where it is known as the Acholi Girls Fairer Future (AGFF) project. It has been very successful and has made an impact on the lives of young girls.

"Before [the AGFF project brought] the pads I was missing school, but now I cannot miss school. Every day I am in the class very early in the morning when the teacher starts lessons."



Joan, a P6 student at Agago Army

So far in 2019 the AGFF project provided reusable sanitary pads and knickers to 2,914 girls in 19 schools, bringing our total reach to 22,960 girls over 5 years. At this point we are not expanding the total number of schools in our catchment area, which remains at 102 schools, but we are revisiting past schools to continue

to provide for the new girls who are reaching menstrual age.

In Tanzania, the project will be launched in the Mwanza region and will be called “*Nguvu na Hadhi*” (Strength and Dignity) after Proverbs 31:25. Phase 1 will involve 52 girls meeting twice a month for Bible teaching, menstrual health education, and prayer. Each group member will contribute financially to the project to encourage ownership. Creating an immediate supply of Dignity Kits, developing high-quality curriculum, and conducting baseline surveys to explore girls’ prior knowledge of menstruation are our top priorities. Taking the project into 4 schools in the Bugogwa Ward is our focus for Phase 2 and becoming sustainable is what Phase 3 is all about.

You can support Heather's fundraiser for the girls health project by donating online (scan the QR code on your smartphone or visit tinyurl.com/yyf3adon) or visit our website for details on other ways to donate (www.eiuk.org.uk/ways-to-give).



EI Canada

EIC will use the funds raised in Canada to aid the Maternal Health Project in Malawi. The Maternal Health Project's goal is to improve delivery and utilisation of essential health services to mothers, pregnant women, newborns and children under five.

Since April 2016 our PROMISE Project (PROmoting Maternal, newborn Infant Sustainable health Efforts) in Malawi, has seen great success working towards reducing the mortality rate of pregnant women and children under 5.



The PROMISE Project is striving to do this through

- increasing the access to essential health care,
- improving the utilisation of the health care, and
- increasing the consumption of nutritious foods.

You can support Heather's fundraiser for the PROMISE project in Malawi by donating online at eicanada.org.

TEAR Australia

TEAR Australia is a movement of Christians in Australia responding to the needs of poor communities around the world. Their, and our, motivation comes from our belief that God loves all people, is just, and has particular care for the poor and those who suffer as victims of injustice. They partner with grassroots organisations involved with development, relief and advocacy projects which focus on the poorest and most marginalised people and give priority to their rights, interests, needs and capacities.

Supporting Heather

As you can imagine, there is a lot of funds to be raised for Heather's row itself, and a lot of helping hands needed to make this gigantic challenge come to fruition.

If you wanted to support Heather, donate on her GoFundMe page: www.gofundme.com/survive-the-crossing
www.pacificgiantsrow.com
Visit www.pacificgiantsrow.com/the-team to see how you can offer your skills or help.



pacificgiantsrow@gmail.com



[@pacificgiantsrow](https://www.instagram.com/pacificgiantsrow); www.instagram.com/pacificgiantsrow



www.youtube.com/channel/UCWRFokID3AfOrMYEPZlaPWQ



www.facebook.com/PacificGiantsRow

Pray for

- Speedy arrival of the boat in Perth and that I'm able to get enough time for training while working.
- Maintaining a healthy body and mind.
- Getting enough sponsorship to cover costs.
- The fundraising goal would be met and many who have never heard of EI and TEAR would learn of the work they do and become long term supporters.

Dates for your diary

Board Meeting: 25 October 2019 in London

Board Meeting: 17 January 2020

EIUK Annual Conference and

AGM: 29 February 2020. Venue to be announced.

Summer event: 4 July. Sue Fallon is celebrating 35 years with EI!

George Middleton (1925-2019)



The founder and a longtime friend of Emmanuel International, George Middleton, passed away on Sunday 7 July 2019.

In September 1975, George Middleton and his wife Dorothea founded Emmanuel International which is now present all around the world. George asked John Carroll to register Emmanuel International in the UK with the British Charity Commissioners, and in 1984 EIUK was formally registered as a charity.

From George Middleton's son, Mel Middleton, on Sunday the 7th: "Early this morning my Dad, known by many around the world as Mr George, took his last trip. One of his favorite songs went: "One glad morning when this earth is over, I'll fly away! To that land on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away". And that is exactly what he did. He has joined the throngs of those who have gone before, something he spoke about often, where there is no more pain, no more sorrow, no more tears. He is in the presence of the saints and angels in Heaven with our Lord and Savior who he loved and served! While those of us who remain will grieve and miss him, we can still rejoice knowing that he has crossed that river, where there is peace forevermore!"