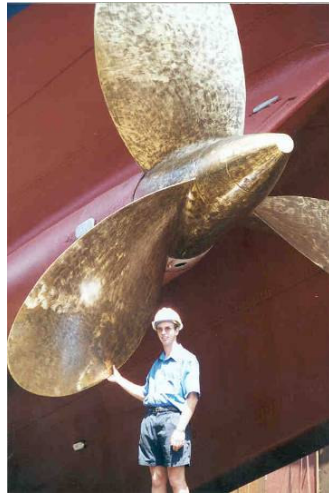


# News from Malcolm Taylor – April 2003

## Ten Years of Serving the Poor and Needy...

This time ten years ago I was completing the lecture phase of my Discipleship Training School in Harpenden, England. This was the beginning of what has turned into ten years of bring help to those worse off than ourselves.



*But why do I do what I do?*  
The answer is one of God's preparation and calling long before I knew of His plans. The meaning of my name 'Malcolm', means 'servant of St Columba' who was accredited with the conversion of Scotland to Christianity. My calling as a servant has been apparent with my growing up as a Server at Lady St Mary's Church in Wareham, as an Assistant Scout Leader and my

willingness to help in any way I could with the Church in Lytchett Minster and Upton.

*But what was it that encouraged me to leave my home in southern England and commit my time to the work of the Church and to the poor?*

The Church and mission groups have been working throughout the world for centuries, but it took rock stars and TV personalities to highlight how urgent the need was to help the world's poor. TV programs like Challenge Aneka and Comic Relief have shown how we can help others. But it was Bob Geldof's Band Aid and then Live Aid, which shocked us all into the extent of the need and poverty.

With these thoughts very prominent in my mind it was seeing poverty first hand that changed my life. The poverty of those living on the streets and mountain sides of Bogotá, the difference of the quality of life in the Amazons, people receiving sight after a simple 30 minute operation, the gift of water through the process of drilling a well...

Building churches, building homes, building lives.... This is what has become important to me in my role is missions.

As I celebrate 10 years of serving God and those in need, I give thanks for the support and prayers that I have received, this in turn has seen me complete projects in:

Bogotá & Medellin, Colombia  
Amazons (Peru, Colombia & Brazil)  
Puerto Cabezas & Puerto Corinto, Nicaragua  
Santo Tomas, Puerto Barrios & Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala  
La Union, El Salvador  
Dalian, China (cargo drop)  
Pulupandan, Philippines

My recent work on the Caribbean Mercy and Anastasis have also enabled then to minister in the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Belize, Sierra Leone, Benin and the Gambia.

During my time with Mercy Ships I have visited 76 port cities in a total of 16 countries with sails from the US East Coast, the Great Lakes, Alaska and the Inside Passage, Gulf of Mexico, Panama Canal, Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, English Channel and many others.

## The Africa Mercy...



I am now located in Newcastle, England where I am a part of the engineering team responsible for turning this former rail ferry into a state of the art hospital ship. The future role of this ship, the Africa Mercy, came out of a dream to bring hope and healing. With this ship we are going to be able to bring our expert services and God's love to many more of the worlds poor and needy. This year Mercy Ships is celebrating 25years of ministry with the theme "Celebrating the Impossible". To complete the Africa Mercy is an impossible



God in this  
my largest ever  
the challenges and  
lives will be  
my labours

God Bless

## Contact Details

**Malcolm Taylor**

M/V Africa Mercy

PO Box 67

Hebburn

Tyne & Wear

NE31 1YU

UK

Mobile Phone: +44 (0) 7939 407331

email: [taylor@mercyships.org](mailto:taylor@mercyships.org)

[www.MercyShips.org](http://www.MercyShips.org)

[www.Caribbean-Mercy.org/Malcolm](http://www.Caribbean-Mercy.org/Malcolm)



## Mercy Ships Outreach Stories

### Mission Challenge

A Mission Challenge team from Hide-A-Way-Lakes Community Church in East Texas joined the Mercy Ship on outreach for ten days. Some in the group were seasoned

partners on their third outreach with Mercy Ships, but this was their first time in the Dominican Republic.



The group's efforts were concentrated in a village where they served alongside a local organization building houses for Haitian refugees and needy Dominicans. The new homes replace dirt-floor shacks made of tin cans flattened into squares and hammered together. Mission Challenge team members entered one such home to tell the owners they would receive a new house. The family was ecstatic, and the father burst into tears, and then into song. The team built three homes from the ground up and worked on a total of eight homes.

In addition to the construction project, the team reached out to the community in other ways. They took food and clothing to people who

live in deplorable conditions around the local dump. One of the team members noted it was "one of the most needy places we've ever been."



## With Thanks

For all those who have given donations towards my work during the last 10 years of ministry. Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

## Praise Items

For the initial donation for the Africa Mercy.  
For the restart of work onboard.

## Prayer Requests

For the Africa Mercy conversion.  
For strength and knowledge in my role onboard.  
For my future.

## Grateful Cecelia

Cecelia began losing her eyesight ten years ago until it was completely gone. She said, "It's very sad not being able to see. The only thing that comforts me is trusting God for strength."

Cecelia went to a Mercy Ship and received an appointment card for a surgery. Within weeks she got the sight restoring cataract surgery she so desperately needed. She said, "I didn't see anything before surgery. But now I can see well. I can see people's faces . . . I've been thanking God every day."

And isn't that just the way it should be? When mercy is shown, people see the love of God.

## Cindy and Carlos

Nurse Cindy Shifflet was screening patients for the Mercy Ships eye clinic in Honduras. Two men asked to see the doctor. But Cindy was puzzled after finding out both men had fairly good eyesight. She started to turn the men away, but then decided to place both of them on the patient list anyway.

The eye clinic team quickly discovered one of the men was a new believer. He was trying to lead his friend, Carlos, to become a follower of Jesus as well. He hoped seeing the Mercy Ships crew in action would convince Carlos to follow Jesus. A few hours with Cindy and her team did indeed melt his heart. Carlos realized he needed a Savior far more than he needed a new pair of glasses. He chose to follow Jesus.



These are just some of the many stories from around the world. They are examples of how God is using Mercy Ships to bring hope and healing to the needy. Now you go and show mercy today.

