

News from Malcolm Taylor – April 2008

156 Homes in Twelve Months

In 2007 a record number of houses were built in Ensenada, 156 houses in twelve months. With a further 120 houses built at our Tijuana location means 276 families received a new home. But as I calculated these statistics it got me thinking, what are the goals of the Homes of Hope program? Is record breaking numbers a good goal to have?



When I was asked to come to Ensenada and run the Homes of Hope program it was initially to improve the administrative logistics of the program. A year of hard work has turned the program around with a visible growth in returning teams. For 2008 my goals are different; staff development and ministry growth.



The majority of the Homes of Hope staff are Mexican; a crew of dedicated staff who are a great joy to work with. Many of them have financial support levels that are less than those of the families we are building for, however they are all committed to serving people in their own country. Over the last month our focus has



been on unity which has created a working relationship like we have never had. The staff are beginning to take responsibility of hosting teams, training up new builders and bringing fun to their work.

One of the goals of the Homes of Hope program is to present the gospel to each family and to invite them to a local Church. During this year's spring Mission Adventure program we are going to do just that. Working with local Churches we will be holding ministry events, along side the builds, where we will be sharing the gospel to the local neighbourhood. This will be a great start to what we pray will be an incredible year. At the end of 2008 I hope we can say that 276 families started to attend Church and not just received a new home.

Africa Mercy

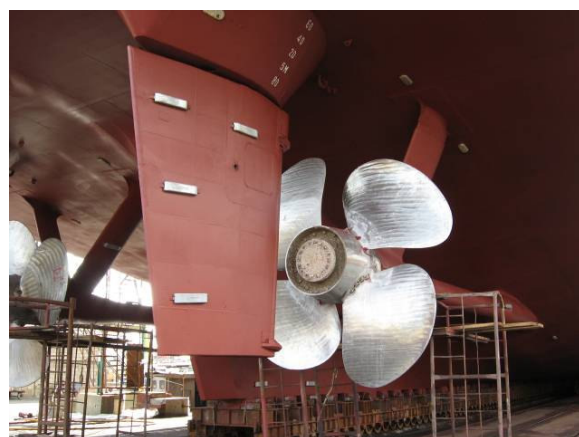
My three years of contract negotiations, design and installation work on the Africa Mercy almost seem to be a part of my distant past. But they have never been far from my mind or my email account. For the last 12 months I have consulted on various systems that I was involved with during the conversion of the Africa Mercy into a hospital ship. To everyone's surprise the ship has operated remarkably well since it started its first outreach to Liberia last May.



I was invited to join the ship in Las Palmas, off the West Coast of Africa. It was a great joy to see her sail into the port and get to experience the ship in action. After a few days of preparation the ship sailed over to the dry dock to be hauled out of the water for inspection and a fresh coat of paint.



This gave me the chance to review the systems we installed, check out some minor problems and advise on some systems to be installed in the future. So what did we get wrong in this huge project? Of all the things that we installed we completely over looked the sound levels of the large generators that sit directly underneath the operating rooms. Soon to be resolved by installing sound casings around the engines. Also one of the sub contractors failed to calculate the correct size of sprinkler pump. During the dry dock we installed a larger pump and also a new emergency generator to power it.



It was a good time for me to meet old friends and see the efforts of my labour. I don't have any regrets about leaving Mercy Ships as I know that God is using me in great ways here with the field ministry that I am now doing in Mexico. I pray that the ministry and staff of Homes of Hope continues to grow and for the Africa Mercy as she brings health care to the needy in Africa.

God Bless,
Malcolm Taylor

Praise Items

For the Homes of Hope staff who make this all possible.
For my trip to the Africa Mercy last December.
For the success of the numbers of people we were able to help in 2007.
For the volunteer builders that regularly come to help build.

Prayer Requests

For ministry growth.
For greater financial support for the Mexican staff.
For the families as they are presented with the Gospel message.

Support:

As full time volunteers, we receive no salary for our work. If you wish to help support my work with YWAM and the worldwide Christian community that we are called to serve, please consider supporting me with your prayers and donations.
For non tax payers and for a single gift of up to £30: By Cheque payable to Malcolm Taylor and post to: *Malcolm Taylor, c/o 40 Trent Drive, Wareham, Dorset. BH20 4DF.*

Gift Aid Donation through Stewardship Services:

Your donation to me, by using Gift Aid, can be increased by 28% by reclaiming the tax you have already paid. This can be for any single donation over £30, or for regular sponsorship. Please contact me and I will forward a gift aid form to you.

Your support to me in prayer and by your donations is gratefully received. Thank you.

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