

## Interserve Day 2014

**Our eighth annual Interserve Day was a great success, and guest speakers Paul and Pat Stock were warmly received by the 220+ people in attendance.**

One attendee wrote, “For the first time I really understood the value of ethnomusicologists, the foundation they lay for the gospel and the truths they teach to dispel the lies embedded in the culture. Brilliant!”

Having outgrown our previous venue, this year we gathered at Grace International Church in Glen Innes. It was an inspirational and informative time as we heard from Partners and On Trackers about how God is

moving across the Interserve world. And it built a sense of shared community amongst attendees across a wide range of ages and ethnicities, from long-term supporters to those just introduced to Interserve.

Interserve Day 2015 will be held on 2 May, with guest speaker Dr Cathy Hine, our current International Director of Ministries. She has been with Interserve for over 25 years, and her current focus is on research, writing and advocacy for women living under Islam. Her depth of insight will help us reflect on appropriate missiological responses. You won't want to miss out on a great day, so please reserve the date now. ☺

## Mentoring for Mission

**The word ‘mentoring’ seems to be a bit of a buzz word these days. In the dictionary a mentor is defined as: a guide, advisor, coach, teacher or tutor.**

In Mentoring for Mission, we think of it as walking alongside those who are seriously considering mission. We aim to help them grow in their call and relationship with God, to walk with them, to guide them through the hurdles and to pray with them through the questions and challenges.

Over the past year we have been working on the practicalities of Mentoring for Mission to ensure there is support for both mentors and mentees. We want it to be a purposeful journey which will maximise the

mentees’ learning opportunities before they go overseas. Currently there are eight mentoring partnerships in full swing, with a number of people yet to be paired with a mentor.

We hope to see more enquirers going on to serve with Interserve, enquirers who have gained a deeper understanding of God’s heart for the lost and of His plan for them, and who will be more effective in mission, whether in NZ or overseas.

It is exciting to see this happening. Please pray for the mentors and mentees and their relationships, that God will use them to further His kingdom and to better equip those He calls to cross-cultural mission. ☺

## Maori name for Interserve

**Good things take time, and so it has been as we have explored the development of a bicultural identity for Interserve NZ.**

As an organisation specialising in cross-cultural service, it is fitting that we recognise the bicultural origin of our country, Aotearoa New Zealand. When we look at the values of Interserve it seems that mostly we fit well with Maori values, though we have much to continue to learn and gain.

At this year’s Interserve Day in May we announced that we will now be known as Interserve/Nga Ringa Ringa Atawhai. This translates literally as ‘Hands of Grace’. We love the sound of this, as we are people who like to get our hands dirty, serving in Asia and the Arab world – seeking to receive and share the grace of God. The word *atawhai* (look out for it the next time you sing our national anthem), means not only grace, but also mercy, kindness and hospitality: “Love is patient, love is *atawhai*...” (1 Corinthians 13). It is also appropriate that this term was originally used for women, considering that Interserve was started by women, for women, 162 years ago. To receive an in-depth explanation, please do contact us.

We have only begun to explore where this new part of our identity will lead us, but we’re excited by it. We are committed to it being not just a token exercise, but an ongoing journey. Join us on it! ☺