



AMY WILSON CARMICHAEL 1867 –1951

Amy was a Protestant Christian missionary in India, who opened an orphanage and founded a mission in Dohnavur. She served in India for 55 years without furlough and wrote many books about the missionary work there. Initially Carmichael traveled to Japan for fifteen months, but after a brief period of service in Lanka, she found her lifelong vocation in India. She was commissioned by the Church of England Zenana Mission. Hindu temple children were young girls dedicated to the gods and forced into prostitution to earn money for the priests i.e. Devadasi. Much of her work was with young ladies, some of whom were saved from forced prostitution. When the children were asked what drew them to Amy, they most often replied ‘*It was love. Amma (Amy) loved us.*’ The organisation she founded was known as the Dohnavur Fellowship. Dohnavur is situated in Tamil Nadu, thirty miles from the southern tip of India. The fellowship would become a sanctuary for over one thousand children who would otherwise have faced a bleak future. In an effort to respect Indian culture, members of the organisation wore Indian dress and the children were given Indian names. She herself dressed in Indian clothes, dyed her skin with dark coffee, and often travelled long distances on India's hot, dusty roads to save just one child from suffering. Carmichael's work also extended to the printed page. She was a prolific writer and poet, producing thirty-five published books including *Things as They Are: Mission Work in Southern India* (1903), *His Thoughts Said . . . His Father Said* (1951), *If* (1953), *Edges of His Ways* (1955) and *God's Missionary* (1957).



JOHN FLYNN OBE 1880 – 1951

John was an Australian Presbyterian minister who founded the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the world's first air ambulance. By 1903 he decided to become a Presbyterian minister and entered Ormond College, a college of the University of Melbourne, to study divinity in 1907. He graduated in 1910 and was ordained in 1911. Flynn was made the first superintendent of the Australian Inland Mission. As well as tending to matters spiritual, Flynn quickly established the need for medical care for residents of the vast Australian outback, and established a number of bush hospitals.

By 1917, Flynn was already considering the possibility of new technology, such as radio and aircraft, to assist in providing a more useful acute medical service, and then received a letter from an Australian pilot serving in World War I, Clifford Peel, who had heard of Flynn's speculations and outlined the capabilities and costs of then-available planes. This material was published in the church's magazine, the start of Flynn turning his considerable fund-raising talents to the task of establishing a flying medical service. The first flight of the Aerial Medical Service was in 1928 from Cloncurry, Queensland. Flynn guided the Organisation, lobbying both politicians and his church, to take the service nationwide. In 1934 the Australian Aerial Medical Service was formed, and gradually established a network of bases nationwide. Flynn remained the public face of the Organisation (through name changes to its present form) and helped raise the funds that kept the service operating.

While undoubtedly most famous for the Organisation that became the RFDS (Royal Flying Doctors Service), Flynn's work with the Mission extended well beyond it. As well as the nursing homes, Flynn instituted travelling ministries - ministers travelling vast distances on horseback through the inland. In 1939 Presbyterian Church of Australia elected Flynn to the primus inter pares role of Moderator-General. Flynn was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1933. He is featured on one side of the current Australian 20 dollar note.



BETTY GREENE 1920 – 1997

Elizabeth Everts “Betty” Greene was born in Seattle in 1920. Betty developed an early love of aviation and was fascinated by the adventures of Charles Lindbergh, Admiral Byrd, and Amelia Earhart. As a teenager, she took flying lessons and even flew a solo flight. Betty longed for travel and adventure, and when a trusted older friend suggested that she use her flying for Christian mission work, Betty “leaped for joy at the thrilling thought of combining flying with my love for God.”

Betty Greene began her professional aviation career by serving with the Women Air force Service Pilots (WASPs) during World War II. She flew several kinds of military planes during the war and did experimental work on high-altitude flights. After the war, Betty helped found the Christian Airmen's Missionary Fellowship, later called MAF. On February 23, 1946, Betty embarked on the first MAF flight, taking off from Los Angeles, California with Mexico City as the final destination. She reached her destination one week after taking off from Los Angeles on the first MAF mission flight.

Betty served as an MAF pilot for 16 years, flying in 12 countries and touching down in some 20 more. In 1962 she began working at MAF headquarters, and later served as an MAF advocate until her death in 1997.



HUDSON TAYLOR 1832 –1905

James was a British Protestant Christian missionary to China, and founder of the China Inland Mission (CIM - now OMF International). Taylor spent 51 years in China. The Society that he began was responsible for bringing over 800 missionaries to the Country who began 125 schools and directly resulted in 18,000 Christian conversions, as well as the establishment of more than 300 stations of work with more than 500 local helpers in all eighteen provinces in China.

Taylor was known for his sensitivity to Chinese culture and zeal for evangelism. He adopted wearing native Chinese clothing even though this was rare among missionaries of that time. Under his leadership, the CIM was singularly non-denominational in practice and accepted members from all Protestant groups, including individuals from the working class and single women as well as multinational recruits. Primarily because of the CIM's campaign against the Opium trade, Taylor has been referred to as one of the most significant Europeans to visit China in the 19th Century.

Taylor was able to preach in several dialects of Chinese, including Mandarin, Chaozhou, and the Wu dialects of Shanghai and Ningbo. The last of these he knew well enough to help prepare a written colloquial edition of the New Testament.

