

Abbas Rest Orphans - helping children in Africa

Newsletter - November 2009

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Greetings to all our friends & loyal supporters.

Because of your dedication there are now 255 orphans in the full programme & 48 provided with baby milk or a nutritious porridge. Very young children from the surrounding villages are given milk progressing on to porridge to supplement their nutrition until they are 2. The numbers fluctuate since guardians move to the towns in search of a better life / remarry out of the area. William Edwin [manager] is frequently made aware of other children and has been trained to assess need and incorporate them as necessary into the milk, porridge or full programme.

It has been an exciting year with much achieved but loads more to tackle & so **Charlie McGill**, our projects manager, has volunteered to go out for a year to serve the poor, and commented that he " *didn't want to be idle* ". So after our AGM in Sept. we are making sure of that! We decided to press-gang him into sharing a bit about himself.....



" I first visited Africa [Kenya] in 1986 with a youth group , but didn't return to Malawi until 2003 when I felt that I had arrived home! I find the Malawians so warm hearted and friendly & thank God

that He keeps taking me back."

Centre news. Recently we learnt that our teacher in Ntepa, Blessings Mezanya, died leaving his wife & child. Life is harsh and despite these tragic circumstances, his bereaved wife Riugh, has volunteered to continue teaching there. Our prayers and sympathy are with her.

Medical screening at the Muona Care Centre is planned for the 109 children based there, taking them to the local clinic. Although Muona is only about 2 kilometres from the clinic, one of the sub stations is 20 kilometres distant.....this will take much organising!

[All the Chiringa orphans were checked last spring; those requiring medication attend hospital monthly.]

The second phase of the **toilet and wash facility** is to go ahead, aiming to eventually provide all the orphan 's with one next to their village home. Squatting behind thorns often causes badly infected leg wounds; antiseptic cream and plasters are unheard of in the bush.

The **carpentry teacher** at Chiringa Care Centre has given in his notice since he is starting up a new business; we wish him well & so the hunt is now on to find a replacement for the boys. **Aubrey**, our mechanics teacher, is enjoying working with the 8 teenage students who are literally throwing themselves into it!

Fundraisers We were overawed at the response from a Coffee Morning in St. John 's Town of Dalry, where a slide show & DVD demonstrated the joy & fun the orphans experienced this summer. Their squeals of delight echoed round the hall....

Also, a youngster has made quite an impression on us doggedly persisting in raising funds for charity.

Elliot Boyce,
originally from
Lawthorn Primary
School, Irvine.



Elliot, managing a team when in primary 7, then aged only 11, initially aimed to raise £1000 but far exceeded this amount! He kindly donated £500 to ARO.

Interestingly, 3 children at Beka wish to change their **Christian names**; Mafuta to *Mercy*, Meza to *Melina* & Mbalika to *Patricia*-we hope that this is not going to race through all the others since it is difficult enough trying to keep on top of the admin!!!!

High jump, climbing frame & sandpit constructed on behalf of a sponsor.



Play & the love they experience from the staff, assist the orphans 'emotional recovery.



John Naluso's home; reconstructed in time for the rainy season. Native built houses don't last very long.

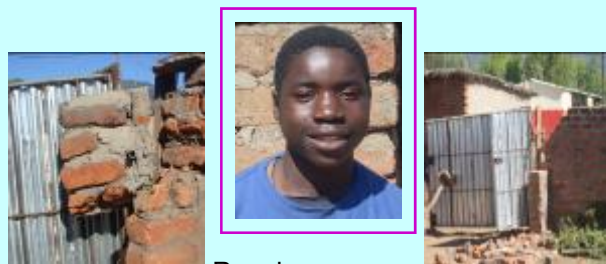
William, our manager in Malawi, believes there are **3 children** suffering from epilepsy, so diagnosis & treatment will be undertaken shortly - transportation again an issue. There is little infra structure in Malawi and the dirt roads can become easily impassable.

Carpentry skills;

boys assisted in making sponsored school benches; carving his name in remembrance.



Auzeni, a big lad of 15, took to swinging on the centre gates at Chiringa, with this result!



Repairs were

carried out & he was advised not to do it again!

Although Auzeni can't keep up scholastically, practically he is very able & loves to throw himself into helping where he can. When locals cut the water pipe, tapping into the water supply, Auzeni rushes out to fix them. Initially, he was aggressive towards the children, but now is very protective & loves to play enthusiastically with them.

Relocation of the **water pipe** to the centre was suggested at the AGM but naturally the villagers would still be welcomed to use our supply.

Tanzania update - several reports have been delivered to those connected with the orphanages from Richard & others so that the issues raised can be investigated further. At present we can go no further until accountability for funds can be guaranteed.

We have had a good response from those wishing the newsletter by email - if interested please contact me on eleanorwillis@btinternet.com

NB All mail to Malawi. Please go through Wm Edwin our manager at; PO Box 41 Chiringa Orphan Care Centre, Chiringa, Malawi, Central Africa.

If you would like a audio/visual presentation, or any further information, please get in touch.

Finally, greetings from all the team, we hope you have a peaceful & blessed time over the festive season, may God bless you, *Richard & Eleanor*.

'He defends the cause of the fatherless & the widow,

and loves the alien, giving him food & clothing' Deut. 10 verse 18. NIV.