

# BREAD News

MAKING A BIG IMPACT IN A SMALL PLACE

Autumn 2011



Dear Friends,

As we reported earlier in the year, Mike Mytton travelled to Berega in March to help the Trustees establish where BREAD could most effectively support the community in and around the village.

So far, we have responded in two ways – BREAD scholarships for students to attend the School of Nursing at Berega (SONAB), and providing one-off emergency funding for much needed drugs at the hospital.

Longer term, a key focus for BREAD will be helping to meet the desperate need for a sustainable source of clean water – both for the village and the hospital. We also want to provide much needed new equipment in the operating theatre.

## **BACK TO SCHOOL: Daily BREAD**

Autumn marks the return to school, college and university for children and students across the UK and it's no different for those studying at SONAB.

Last year we reported SONAB's opening with the first intake of just over 30 students enrolling to study for the three-year diploma programme.

As hoped, the village is benefitting greatly from the nursing school – both economically with the influx of students, but also in terms of raised standards of healthcare within the hospital and an increased staff capacity.

SONAB is key to the on-going survival of the hospital – to ensure quality healthcare and a sustainable source of nursing staff to this rural location.

To that end, we're launching a new campaign, BREAD scholarships for nursing staff. We have already been able to fund 3 scholarships for local students who meet the entry criteria, but who would otherwise be unable to enrol at the School. We are committed to supporting these three students throughout their 3 year studies and look forward to reporting on their progress in future newsletters.

In addition to scholarships at SONAB we will also be subsidising fees for students to attend the Lay Training Centre (LTC) in Berega. We will be providing the diocese with £1,000 per year, for three years to help reduce the cost of fees for individual students.

Through supporting students at both SONAB and the LTC, not only are we investing in individuals, but the families and communities they will go on to help and serve through their medical abilities and ministry. You too could support a student at SONAB for £20 per month or contribute to the cost of fees at the LTC. Please find further details of how to do this on the 'BREAD Board'.

## **BREAD and Water**

Food and water are two key elements for life. Although Tanzania is a country with large lake areas, only 54% of people have access to improved water supplies and just 24% of the country's population have access to adequate sanitation.

Berega is no different - women and children walk daily to collect water from the river that runs through the village, but during the dry season the lack of clean water creates a huge problem and is a major source of disease.



The river in Berega

Jesus said ‘...whoever drinks the water I give them, will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life’ (John 4:14)

As a charity focused on supporting the needs of people in BEREGA, motivated by our Christian faith, it seems right that we should be focused on helping to provide a clean, reliable source of water, whilst praying that people would also come to know the refreshment of the water that Jesus speaks of.

We’ll be supporting rain-water harvesting projects in the village and the hospital, which will allow people to collect water during the rainy season, for use later in the year. By harvesting rain water during the rainy season from existing guttering at the hospital and church, water can be stored for later in the year in large tanks.

We are also currently looking into funding additional water pumps for various locations in the village, which will serve over 2,000 people with just three simple pumps. We will keep you up to date as things progress.

### **POWER FOR THE HOSPITAL**

Although there are plans for electricity to come to Berega – the hospital still relies heavily on the generator to supply power.

We’ve recently learnt that the generator hasn’t been working properly – it’s several years old, so

are currently in discussions about whether it should be mended or a new one purchased and have been working with contacts in the UK, along with local experts to advise us on the best course of action – but hope to be able to ensure that the Hospital have a reliable source of power again shortly.

Without the generator supplying power to the Hospital there’s no light or water (which is pumped into the hospital) and the daily running of the hospital is severely hampered not least because they can’t provide xray services and it’s virtually impossible then to conduct life-saving operations.

### **THE OPERATING THEATRE**

The “E” in BREAD stands for equipment. The operating theatre at the hospital badly needs new equipment sets for undertaking Caesarean sections and we should like to provide these if we can. They are expensive but will save lives by reducing infections in surgical wounds. If you are able to support the cost of new equipment – then do let us know.

### **LENDING YOUR EXPERTISE**

As situations like the one we’ve recently been faced with the generator highlight, we often rely on the support and expertise of people in the know to help advise us as Trustees when it comes to more technical matters.

We are fortunate to have built up a network of contacts who can lend their skills – but would love to continue to develop these relationships, so that we can draw on the talent and expertise of our supporters. Perhaps you’re a water engineer, or an expert builder or plumber, or you have medical knowledge or medical equipment buying expertise - or perhaps you know someone else who is?

If you would like to donate your skills and time to support BREAD and the people in Berega or could put us in touch with others who might like to give their time, even if it is just by us phoning or

emailing you for advice, then please do get in touch – details of how to contact us can be found on the 'BREAD Board'.

## **BISHOP COMES TO THE UK**

Bishop Godfrey Sehaba, Bishop of Morogoro, the diocese in which Berega is situated paid a visit to the UK in June.

During his visit Bishop Godfrey spent time with BREAD trustees, the Bishops of Worcester, Guildford and Southwark and was hosted by Merland Rise Church in Tadworth. He was able to share just what an impact the support and aid that BREAD provides makes in Berega and how it helps to change lives. There of course is always much more to do but he sincerely thanked all the supporters of BREAD and asked us to pass this on to you.

The Trustees are also available and would love to come and speak about the work of BREAD – so do let us know if you would like one of us to come and visit.



Catriona and Gary at meeting with the Bishop

## **ISAAC MGEKO VISITS UK:**

It's been quite a year for visits from Berega, and as we write, Isaac Mgego, the Hospital Director is visiting the UK and Bread trustees met with him in early October. Isaac has been one of our main

links with Berega since Mary and Noj Northway moved to Kenya in 2007.

Through Isaac we learn of the needs on the ground - primarily in the hospital. Isaac will email us with news of the hospital and complete proposal forms for initiatives they would like BREAD to fund. The trustees then consider the proposals and provide funding whenever possible as long as it fits in with our charitable aims.

## **TRUSTEE NEWS**

After 6 years of serving as a Trustee for BREAD – as our Treasurer, Giles Ripley has stepped down. When Giles joined the Board, he spent a lot of time getting our finances in order. He developed effective systems so that we could keep a track of money coming in and going out, ensured our accounts were prepared each year for our Charity Commission returns and always provided user-friendly figures for us to look at during our trustee meetings. We are enormously grateful to him for his significant contribution to BREAD and wish him well in the future.

As Giles steps down, we are welcoming Mike Mytton onto the Board of BREAD. Mike has already spent time in Berega earlier this year and has developed a great understanding of the village and built good relationships with people there. He will be taking on Giles' responsibilities as treasurer and we welcome him to the team.

Congratulations to Clare (nee Marnham) our communications trustee who got married to Ben in June this year.

So, the Board of Trustees now looks like this:

Gary Mann: Chairman  
Mike Mytton: Treasurer  
Catriona Sanderson: Secretary  
Clare Irons: Communications  
Noj Northway: Africa Link

## FUTURE PROJECTS

Both Isaac and the Diocese have kept us informed about future projects that need funding – water and electricity will continue to be priorities going forward – as well as supporting students at the LTC and SONAB.

We realise that the current climate is a difficult one for everybody – reading the news every day we're mindful of the challenges we face in our own economies and across Europe. At the same time, we know that international aid has been significantly impacted by the economic downturn we're experiencing – and people, like those in Berega, are still in considerable need – without access to life's basic necessities.

We are very grateful for your continued support of BREAD – particularly in the current climate, but in order to help us plan our giving and be more strategic as an organisation, we would be very grateful if you would consider making a regular contribution via standing order.

You can also help ensure your giving is as effective as possible by completing a Gift Aid declaration form. For every £1 you donate BREAD can claim back 25p, which makes a huge difference. We have forms available for you to use, so do let us know if you'd like to receive one. Contact details can be found on the 'BREAD Board'.

We'd also like to highlight that you can now give online at our website:  
[www.bread-trust.org.uk](http://www.bread-trust.org.uk)

## THANK YOU

A huge thank you again from us all – and from our friends and partners in Berega for your continued support.

Blessings,

The Trustees

## THE BREAD BOARD



### How you can help make a **BIG** difference in a small place

#### Pray:

- For students starting the new term at SONAB and LTC
- For water provision year-round in Berega and the surrounding area

#### Give:

##### YOU CAN NOW DONATE ONLINE:

[www.bread-trust.org.uk](http://www.bread-trust.org.uk)

If you would like to contribute to any of the initiatives mentioned in this newsletter, or to give unrestricted funding, but prefer to donate offline please contact:

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If you are a UK Taxpayer, you can increase the effectiveness of your giving through Gift Aid. We have produced forms for your use. Please let us know if you would like one.

Please let us know if you're happy for us to send the Newsletter and contact you electronically - if so send your email addresses to [contact@bread-trust.org.uk](mailto:contact@bread-trust.org.uk)

We would love to hear about your own experiences in Berega. If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact Clare Irons at:  
[clare.l.iron@gmail.com](mailto:clare.l.iron@gmail.com)