



December 2018

Dear BREAD supporters,

For one day this year, there were no less than four BREAD Trustees in Berega! Kathy and David were working in the primary school and hospital respectively. You will hear from them both in this Newsletter. Gary and Mike were with a 20-strong work party who went to the village for three weeks in August.

### **The work party**

Over the summer a work party went to Berega made up of 20 teenagers and adults from 4 different UK churches – Merland Rise Church in Surrey, New Life Church in Congleton, Cheshire, Bodmin Community Church and West End Chapel, Fareham. They were also joined by Titus, the son of the Diocesan builder, who was home from University and was very much one of the team.

They raised their own funds for travel and food, plus the funds for the projects. The team quickly gelled and worked hard as well as making lots of friends in the village during their visit.

One of the main projects was to build 2 playgrounds at Bishop Chitemo Primary School. A lot of work went into both the design and building of the climbing frames, rope cargo nets, tyre swings, slide, tunnel, seesaw and sand pit play area. The children had never seen a playground before, but once the team and the local builders who worked with us had a go to show them how, they had great fun and really enjoyed themselves. It was very moving to watch.



The children try the new climbing frame.

The team decorated a classroom they had had built and also painted the container that is now the staff room and paid for a large underground water tank to be built.

At the orphanage they worked hard to dig out and lay concrete paths to link the “banda” with the main building to enable much needed access during the rainy season. Spending their spare time with the children was special.



The “banda” and new paths under construction at the Orphanage

The team also got to show their creative side by painting an amazing mural of colourful animals and plants on the outside of the orphanage.

They ran Kid’s clubs for the local children after school including songs, bible stories and drama, games and craft. About 300 children came along and had a lot of fun and received a party bag at the end.



Murals at the Orphanage



The kid's club!

It was an amazing privilege.

*Sue Wood, a youth worker at New Life Church, Congleton*

To see a video of the children enjoying their new playground, please click on <http://www.bread-trust.org.uk/Media>

### **BREAD finances**

Because of the work party and their fund raising, BREAD had what is probably a record year when it comes to the projects carried out in the village. From our general funds we spent £39,000 on the items shown in the table.

**We do thank you so much that we were able to do all these worthwhile things!**

### Projects funded by BREAD

Department	Projects	£
Hospital	Medicines, Luka Fund, assistance with staff salaries	15,250
School of Nursing	Internet, staff training, new dormitories	7,300
Bishop Chetimo Primary School	Pupil sponsorship, classroom, staff training, capital items relating to school registration	14,135
Berega Bible school	Student sponsorship	850
Orphanage	Maintenance, washing machine	1,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>39,035</b>

Apart from their personal expenses, the work party raised another £30,000.

### Projects funded by the work party

Department	Projects	£
Hospital	Surgical equipment, medicines, refurbishment	4,380
Bishop Chetimo Primary School	Classroom, underground water tank, playground, electricity connection, improvements to dormitories	20,530
Orphanage	Construction of paths, sewing machine	1,970
Other	Small improvement projects at local schools, purchase of chickens for retired pastors	685
<b>Total</b>		<b>27,565</b>

The Trustees have made their plans for 2019. Key projects include student and pupil sponsorship, staff training, toilets for the primary school and the market square (a new venture for us but requested by the Village Elders this summer), a fence for the Orphanage, medicines for the hospital, tree planting at a Govt. primary school and at the Orphanage, and many other smaller projects.

### **What's going on at Bishop Chitemo primary school?**

*Here are some extracts from a diary written by Kathy – an experienced teacher and a BREAD trustee. She spent three months in Berega, starting in July this year.*

Shortly after arriving in Berega a Thanksgiving Celebration for the registration of Bishop Chitemo Pre and Primary School was held. We were honoured to celebrate with the community, and staff for their endurance, dedication and hard work, in the long process leading up to this. Choirs sang! Children danced! The registration means that the school can stay open and that the top year (Std 7) can take their National exams enabling them to go on to secondary school.

By early September the teachers were hard at work with revision and preparing all the children for their exams. They often work in challenging circumstances with limited paper, visual aids and equipment. (A BIG thank-you to everyone for stationary and bits of equipment donated thus far: it's greatly appreciated.) Having said that, the teachers are always smiling and adapt to every situation cheerfully. They were reasonably motivated but voiced concerns for the future, they say they need more English-speaking teachers and volunteers to come and team teach alongside them.

Staff training took place on several occasions and the teachers have asked for more training, they are extremely keen to learn and improve themselves. Some of the newer teachers also felt that they needed to improve their own English skills. The Head Teacher is keen for this training to be extended to teachers from the other local schools.

The Std 7's have achieved remarkable results. We are extremely proud of them and thank previous volunteers for their input. The school was placed sixth amongst 347 in the region.

The 2018 volunteer team were amazing! Over and above the Kids Club (and all their building

and construction projects), some members of the team, helped with the '5 o'clock club' which took place after school. Some days, active games were played, but my favourite was seeing large groups of children having stories read to them on the steps outside the classrooms. No sooner had a story ended and they would beg, "just one more", and after that "just one more." It is apparent that there is a love of books and reading.



The new climbing frame!

Head Teacher Noel encourages children to take books out of the makeshift library at the back of the Std 5, class. However only a few children can do this at a time as there are not enough books (or bookshelves!) yet. Hopefully in the future there will be a well-stocked library, that would benefit the teachers from the other surrounding Primary schools as well.

The boarding dormitory needed a big clean up. Johnny the local village painter said that all the walls needed to be scrubbed down before he could paint. What started as a challenging job for Freda and myself, soon became enjoyable, as the children returned from school and begged to help us. The older boys and girls helped scrub down their own dormitories and the younger ones scrubbed the dining room walls with us. What fun!

With funds from my church, a Children's Bible has been purchased for each class, and several more for the Sunday School, Boarding School, and Orphanage.

As always, the children are engaging, charming, funny and adorable. If I had to start writing about them and all the incidents, you'd be reading a book!

If you have some teaching experience and can spare a month or more helping in Berega, do email us to find out more. We will pass it on to Kathy. [contact@bread-trust.org.uk](mailto:contact@bread-trust.org.uk).

***BREAD Sponsorship Scheme to enable children from poorer families to go to Bishop Chitemo Primary School***

For the last year we have had a Sponsorship scheme which has enabled 13 children from poorer families to go to the school. This has been a great blessing, and Ruth Mgego, the School Manager, has asked us at BREAD to find sponsors for an additional 9 children. We have found sponsors for five of these children: if you would like to know more about sponsoring one of the four remaining children that would be wonderful! – please see the info sent out as the other attachment with this email. Thank you!

**The hospital**

In our March Newsletter we reported that the government had taken 11 of the staff and ordered them to go to Government hospitals in other parts of Tanzania. Since then the government's Community Health Fund has collapsed, with Berega and many other hospitals not being paid for the work done for CHF patients. David, one of our Trustees was working and teaching in the hospital in June and July and he was joined for two weeks by Dr Alisatair Stanley, a young paediatrician from UK who was previously in Berega in 2017, and it was clear to both of us that the quality of care was not as good as a year earlier because there were fewer trained nurses and clinical officers and only two doctors. In spite of this patients were continuing to be cared for, and under the leadership of our excellent young Matron Philis the staff were working hard to deliver the care on all the wards and in OPD.

The government then delivered yet another blow to the hospital at the end of July (in

common with all the other church hospitals) by ordering another 17 staff to leave Berega and go elsewhere, including Philis! There are now only 14 trained staff remaining in the hospital, of whom the government is paying the salaries of 10. Much of the nursing care is given by 36 medical assistants (untrained nurses, but many of them are very experienced) and SONAB students when they are on the wards as part of their training

In the last week have we learned from a correspondent in the British Tanzania Society that, as a matter of (undeclared) policy, the government is removing staff from church hospitals and sending them to government hospitals. And they are also starting to build some new government hospitals.

On the positive side Isaac Mgego, the Hospital Director, is very positive about what he calls the 'challenges' ahead, and says "We need to improve our services in all areas... and establish eye and dental units."



Also positive is the work on the Neonatal Unit: with help from UK supporters we are continuing to take out equipment, such as the new Baby Warmer for twins, which is enabling us to provide some of the best newborn care in central Tanzania.

**SONAB**

The School of Nursing At Berega is continuing to give really excellent nurse training and at

three levels: 3 year Diploma nurses, 2 Year Certificate Nurses and 1 Year Community Nurses.



SONAB trained nurses are now working in many places in the Morogoro Region, and some even further afield in Tanzania. Two tutors have been ordered elsewhere by the government but Wilbard Mrase, the Principal, and the two remaining tutors are continuing the good work.

#### **Contact addresses.**

The following email address goes to both Gary Mann (Chairman) & Mike Mytton (Treasurer):  
contact@bread-trust.org.uk

If you want to write to David & Anne Curnock, who have sent out this Newsletter, then their address is:

39 Seven Oaks Crescent  
Bramcote  
Nottingham NG9 3FP

Their email is: dcurnock@doctors.org.uk

David and Anne are also responsible for running the primary school sponsorship scheme.

The Secretary / Treasurer's address is:

Mike Mytton  
86 Merland Rise  
Tadworth  
KT20 5JD

Thank you again for helping us. Do pray for the staff and the managers of the various organisations that we support. They have a very difficult job.