



January 2015

Dear BREAD Supporters

We are writing to you to tell you about the latest news from Berega and from BREAD. We are doing things in a slightly different way than usual because we want get this newsletter out to you quickly and cheaply. We will email it to those of you for him we have an address.

We must start by thanking you again for your continued support. When the Trustees visit the village, we are thanked profusely by the managers of the various institutions in Berega and by the Bishop. But these thanks are due to you and we want you to know that you are very much appreciated.

Our financial year ends in September and for the period 2013/14 we received donations of £18,000 and spent £20,000 on projects in the Village. We have built a new pharmacy at the hospital and a row of five small shops as an income generating project.



We installed new windows in the operating theatre – no more African dust blowing in! We have supplied the School of Nursing with training models (mainly unmentionable body parts!) and sponsored students. We have also refurbished the hospital bore hole. Finally we bought 50 sacks of grain from local farmers immediately after the harvest (when it is

cheapest) with a view to selling it over the next few months to needy families at a subsidized price. The time before harvest is known as the “hungry months” when some families cannot afford to eat properly. This is an experiment and we will evaluate the benefits later.



On our website we use the words: **Pray, Go, Give**. This newsletter is divided into these three key parts of our work.

Pray

This is a big year for **Tanzania**. They hold presidential elections and a vote on a new constitution. We have been asked to pray that these events will be positive in the life of the country.

With regards to the **hospital**, there has been some staff turnover with the long term senior doctor, Dr Abdallah, leaving. He has been replaced by new doctors but they are still finding their feet. There is also a financial problem in that the Government is still not paying the staff that they should do which leaves the hospital rather vulnerable. Morale is in fact quite low at the moment. Please pray for all the staff and the Hospital Director, Rev Isaac Mgego. Here is Mary, the new Matron.



The **School of Nursing** is doing well. 30 students graduated this year and another 35 joined. We are hopeful that the School will be in a financial “break-even” point within the next one to two years. Already it’s presence lifts standards within the hospital.

The lay training centre continues to operate well and cater for around 30 students each year. These young men and women become evangelists, youth leaders, etc. in their local churches – usually on a voluntary basis.

The **Orphanage** also continues its work. It provides a home for around 20 children who have lost one or both parents, together with a teenage girl from the family who acts as their “auntie” while they are in the Orphanage. When they are fully weaned at around 2 years of age, almost all the children go home to be cared for by the father, together with their extended family.

Please pray for Ute, the Director of the Orphanage. She has adopted four children (quads!) who lost their parents and so her life is busy!

Finally, **St Mary’s primary school** is growing and an American charity (Hands4Africa) has taken on the work of gradually building new classrooms, in association with the Diocese. A local man (known well by Noj and Mary in his childhood!) has become the lead teacher at the school.



Please pray also for **Bishop Godfrey**. This year he finishes a Masters degree in South Africa to enable him to serve better as head of the Diocese. At the moment he studies and leads at the same time, which is not easy!

Everything in Africa is often fragile. Please do pray that all the institutions in Berega will flourish and serve the local community well.

Go

Every two years a team from two churches goes to Berega to do practical work. They raise their own money for their fares and food, then work together to raise further money for the materials they need to do the work.

This year, we are hoping that a third church will take part. There is room in these teams to take some more people and we invite others to join us – either as individuals or as a small group. We take care of you from your arrival in Dar es Salaam to your return – and so you do not need too much in the way of Tanzanian experience. It is an excellent team building opportunity for young people or adults.

There are commitments to some training and of course, money. **But if you or your church may be interested in this, do please let us know soon and we will visit you to explain more.**

This year, the teams are aiming to build a classroom for the primary school and one for the School of Nursing, as well installing rainwater harvesting, decorating, etc. You don’t need special skills!

Give

This letter is written to our supporters. It is not our intention to “extract” more money from you, **but to encourage you to continue in your support for us and the Village!**

This year, we intend to do the following projects:

- Replace the hospital land rover with a second hand vehicle. The present one is 20 years old and is now falling apart. It has travelled more than 350,000 km, so has done well!



- Build a tutorial / admin block for the School of Nursing. This, together with the classroom to be built by the visiting teams, will allow the School to take 100 students. This is good for Tanzania (there are very few qualified nurses) and good for the School itself as at these levels it can break even financially.
- Add more rain water harvesting systems in the wards.
- Refurbish the kitchen in the Lay Training Centre – a desperate need (see below!)



- Provide working capital to the pharmacy which is planned to be a “profit centre” in its own right within the hospital.

The Trustees believe that we can do most, or all, of these things next year if our funding remains more or less the same. In the event that we receive more, there are plenty of other worthwhile projects we can do!

Trustees News

Clare Irons has been a Trustee for many years but she now has two young children and felt it time to stop. We are very grateful for all she has done for us.

She is replaced by Paul Meredith, the pastor of an Elim Church and someone who visited Berega on a working party as a young man - some 12 years ago. (Working parties are a good way to introduce young people to life in Africa!)

Dr David Curnock, one of our Trustees goes each year to help on the medical side at the hospital, whilst his wife works in the school, and in running children's clubs. They go this year for two months in May and June.

Gary (our Chairman) and Mike go with the working parties in August. Please pray for us all¹.

Contacts

Mike Mytton is acting as secretary and treasurer and is keeping our mailing list up to date. If you received this by post, and have an email address, we would very much like you to tell us – by emailing:

contact@bread-trust.org.uk

If you want to write to Mike, then his address is:

86 Merland Rise
Tadworth
KT20 5JD

Remember our web site has all sorts of interesting stuff on it, including some videos of the village. You can find it at:

<http://www.bread-trust.org.uk/>

Thank you again for helping this small charity to make a big difference to the village of Berega.

¹ Just so that you know: Trustee visits are paid for by the Trustees themselves. All the money that we receive goes directly to Berega. We have almost no overheads.