

BREAD News

MAKING A BIG IMPACT IN A SMALL PLACE

Winter 2012



Dear Friends,

We hope this finds you well after the Summer Break. Here at BREAD things have been busy with Chairman of the Trustees Gary Mann spending 3 weeks in Berega, with 10 young people and 5 adult leaders from Merland Rise Church, Tadworth and Holy Trinity, Redhill, and we've got some great reports back from his trip.

We'll also be updating you on exactly how funds have been spent over the past twelve months, and hope you can see that your generous gifts have had a significant impact on the lives of people in Berega.

Thank you for continued support of BREAD.
Blessings,
The Trustees

Review of the Year:



Water Pump funded by BREAD

The Trustees are trying to work in "planning cycles" of around a year. As we have reported before, Mike Mytton went to Berega in April 2011 and discussed the needs of the hospital with Isaac Mgego, Director of Berega Hospital.

He produced a long list of projects that would be useful and the Trustees chose what they considered to be most appropriate to our means and the interests of our supporters. We are just completing these projects and we thought it would be a good time to tell you what we have spent your money on.

Over the last 12 months, we have funded five investment projects:

- We spent around £3,300 on a refurbishment of the "infusion room". This is where the hospital makes up the solutions used in drips. The room had failed an inspection and the work badly needed to be done.
- In the village, we have installed three new pumps at existing bore holes. These cost around £8,300 and will supply clean water to about 1,000 families. In the rainy season, water comes from the river. In the dry season, the alternative is to dig holes in the river bed and take water from the resulting puddles. In both cases, the water can be a real health hazard. The village management have set up water committees to run the pumps and collect small user charges in order to build up a maintenance fund.
- We have purchased and Gary delivered some equipment for the operating theatre while he was in Berega. For those in the know, these consisted of three sets of instruments for carrying out caesarean sections, and two for laparotomies. For the rest of you, it means scalpels and clamps and things like that – to replace very old equipment! The cost was £6,400.

- We have supplied three tanks which have been fitted on three wards and connected to the roof gutters for rain water harvesting during the five months of the rainy season. This is a partial solution, of course, because the pump is still needed for the rest of the year. We are hoping, however, that this extra supply of water will reduce dependence upon the present pump and bore hole. This may be the start of a more radical water strategy but this would be much more expensive and we have not yet done the necessary studies and calculations. These systems cost £1,200 each. They were cheap because we used existing gutters.
- We have supplied a new generator to the hospital. The old generator has become very unreliable and, even with grid electricity hopefully coming soon, a reliable source of power is vital for the safe and efficient working of the hospital. The generator was bought at cost from a friendly supplier. It cost £7,800 and it will require a further £5,000 to install.

Capital investment projects remain the main focus for BREAD. If we become involved too much in funding day to day expenditure, then we risk undermining the hospital's independence. That said, we have provided two other grants to the hospital: £2,500 for drugs at a particularly difficult time, and £1,500 for scholarships to help students at the School of Nursing. We have said we will maintain the scholarships for a minimum of three years. Finally we have spent £1,000 on famine relief due to the very poor harvests this year, owing to the weather.

Given that we had taken time to consider where to spend funds following Mike Mytton's visit to Berega last year, we had quite a bit in reserve. This, added to our income means that we have spent quite a lot of money over the past 12 months. We hope to replenish our bank balance

ready for the next round of projects so do think about BREAD as you begin to plan your giving for 2013 so that we can continue to make a small contribution to the work of the Diocese in Berega.

Meet Isaac Mgego:



Gary chatting to Isaac in his office at the Hospital

This summer, Gary had the opportunity to visit Berega and was able to visit projects on behalf of BREAD, the Trustees and all of you who so kindly support us.

His visit was incredibly fruitful and has given us lots of food for thought in terms of how best we can continue to support the lives of people in Berega, and we'll be meeting later this year, to discuss our next investments in view of his trip.

In the meantime, we wanted to introduce you again to some of the key people in Berega, starting with Isaac Mgego the Hospital Director who has lived in Berega since 2006, with his wife Ruth, and children Elichinae, 12; Mbuli, 7 and daughter Lumili 18 months.

Isaac shared his story with Gary...

Isaac was born relatively close to Berega, in Mkalama near Giro and is the firstborn of 7 children. He was brought up in a Christian home, and indeed his mother had the greatest influence in the lives of her children.

When Isaac was young, he became very sick and was dying – his mother prayed that if his life was saved he would be dedicated to God. Sure enough, his health recovered and an elder from the church baptised him. As an adult in the late 1980's he received the Holy Spirit and dedicated his life to serving God.

From an early age, Isaac's main role was to look after the family livestock. He attended primary school from the age of 7 but his family were very poor, and unable to send him to secondary school after he completed primary education at aged 14.

Isaac, however, was keen to pursue his education and in 1990 he wrote to his brother asking him to pray for God to open the door of education for the family recognising what a huge impact it could have on their lives.

As well as supporting his family through looking after the livestock, Isaac was part of the choir, and it was through this link, that he was given the opportunity by the Diocesan Youth Department to go to Morogoro Bible School for 3 months, where he did incredibly well. Isaac's ability was recognised by tutors at the Bible School and so he was chosen by the Bishop to attend a Lutheran Bible School in Moshi for 2 years.

At the age of 20 Isaac and his brother's prayers were fully answered and he finally realised his ambition to complete his secondary education, graduating from Urbana secondary school in 1996.

Following secondary school, again, Isaac found favour with the Diocese and was sent by them to Nairobi to study for a diploma of Theology, following which he returned to Morogoro to head up the Christian Education Department.

In 2006 whilst teaching at the Bible College in Morogoro for 4 months he was asked whether he would accept the challenge of running a hospital – a departure from his previous roles, and was transferred to Berega Hospital.

Noj Northway suggested that Isaac take a Masters degree in business administration to help him gain experience to run the hospital effectively, which he successfully completed in 2011. He was very generously supported in this by Tony Bramley a longstanding supporter of Berega.

Telling his story to Gary, Isaac shared that it was his obedience to that promise he made to dedicate his life to God, to serve God in the Church as He calls, wherever He calls, that helped him take up the new challenge of hospital administration.

Isaac is fully committed to Berega and wants to get as much done as possible while he is in his role at the hospital. He is one of our key contacts in Berega, and is currently driving a number of projects that will improve things not only in the hospital but throughout the village, and we very much look forward to continuing to work alongside him.

Trustee News:

The current line-up of Trustees is made up of Gary Mann (Chairman), Mike Mytton (Treasurer) Noj Northway and Clare Irons. Catriona Sanderson has been a Trustee of BREAD since it began. Here she writes:

Stepping Down....

It is almost 12 years since Mary and Noj Northway asked five of their friends if they would set up a charity to help raise funds for the village of Berega. It has been a real privilege for me to be on the Board of Trustees all this time. Over this time I have worked with eight different trustees: Originally with Keith Malcouronne, Dick Broughton, Colin Angus and James Gilbert. Then with Giles Ripley and our current trustees, Gary Mann, Noj Northway, Clare Irons and Mike Mytton.

I have been to Berega twice during my time as Secretary, once on my own and once with my

husband Andrew. These times helped me develop some good working relationships, in particular with Ute at the Orphanage, Isaac Mgego, the Hospital Director and Bishop Sehaba. The improvements in email communication with Berega have made our lives as trustees a lot easier as this has meant we can quickly communicate with Berega to ascertain their needs and how we can help them.

Our main emphasis has always been to be good stewards of the money donated to BREAD, but along the way I have really enjoyed working with everyone and we have had some great times together. Some particular memories include trustee meetings at Keith's house overlooking the River Thames and enjoying a BBQ at Giles' house and admiring his perfect lawn, only to realise it was actually plastic!!

One of the advantages of being the Secretary is that I have also been able to get to know many of our supporters as I have corresponded with you. I hope you will continue to support BREAD and I thank you all for how you have helped over the years. I won't be forgetting about Berega though. A group of young people from the church I attend in Redhill recently went to Berega, so there are lots of new links growing and people I see every week are catching the desire to serve this village.

I feel that the time has come for me to step down as a Trustee and maybe take on a new challenge. When you stop one thing, many other things quickly fill the space! I'll still be on the mailing list and will be praying for Berega and the continued work of BREAD in that place.

With love best wishes and blessings
Catriona Sanderson

The Trustees would like to thank Catriona for her wonderful commitment to Berega and BREAD over the years. She has been a fantastic supporter and colleague and we know that many of you will have also enjoyed getting to know

here over the years – we wish her the very best as she steps into what God has for her next.



Catriona Sanderson, stepping down as a Trustee after almost 12 years of serving Berega

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

Pray:

- For Isaac that he would have wisdom as he leads the Hospital
- Thank God for his continued provision and pray that many would come to know him through our continued partnership in Berega

Giving is easy:

You can now donate online at:
www.breadtrust.org

If you would like to contribute to BREAD as you begin to plan your giving for 2013 please contact:

Mike Mytton:
86 Merland Rise, Tadworth, Surrey, KT20 5JD

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.