



February 2026

Dear BREAD supporters,

We have been very poor in keeping you informed over the last year and we apologise for that. Just when we thought there was something to say, everything changed! And just when we thought that there would be a visit by Trustees to Berega, there was a lot of political unrest in the country and Isaac asked us to delay our visit.

We do now see a way ahead, however, and we are keen to share this with you.

A recap

But first of all, a recap of where we are. You may remember that in our last newsletter we had just finished refurbishing all the rainwater tanks at the hospital. This was the good news. Then we heard that the village bore hole had failed. The hospital has a backup bore hole, but it is in poor shape and could fail at any time. We asked our water consultants to come up with a comprehensive solution: one that would last for many years, and that would take into account the growing population in the village (more students in the school and health college, more patients and staff at the hospital), and the impacts of climate change.



A pump house similar to the one that we will be constructing.

The proposed solution

It has taken almost eighteen months for this work to be finished, partly because sources of good, clean water

are difficult to find, and partly because we have had to wrestle with not having enough funds to do all that was required.

The proposed solution is to use an existing bore hole located near the river, to pump this water to a large tank within the hospital grounds, and to then distribute it to the hospital, the college and the school. To supplement this work, additional rainwater tanks are to be built at the school. We are told that this arrangement will supply sufficient water for at least ten years, and allowing for significant future growth in the population.

The initial quotation put the overall cost at about £120,000 – much more than we had available. Subsequent negotiations divided the work into two phases: the bore hole and the rainwater tanks - each costing about £60,000. Even this was too much for the funds we had available, but a development charity, the Anglican Relief and Development Fund of Australia have made available US\$10,000.

The result of all this is that we are going ahead! Work will start in March on Phase 1 of the project. We have almost enough money to do this, and expect to have sufficient by the time the work is completed in September of this year.

Why are we devoting so much of our money to this project? Well, at the last visit by the Trustees – in mid-2024, the Bishop specifically asked that we prioritise the issue of water. Neither the hospital, or the school or the health college can continue without it.

What else have we been doing?

Our financial year runs from 1st October to 30th September, and during the year 2024/25 we spent your money in the following ways:

- £6,500 at the hospital – for cholera medicines, and on the epilepsy project. The latter is funded by the Tadworth and Walton Overseas Aid Trust and provides outreach clinics and anti-epilepsy drugs for 68 epilepsy patients in 13 villages in the Berega area.
- £8,500 on pupil sponsorship at the primary school and a small amount to help build classrooms at the new secondary school. We support around 30 children at the primary school.
- £8,500 on progressing the water project: i.e. water quality testing, survey work and the drawing up of plans.

By the end of September, we had approximately £35,000 in the bank, set aside to cover the cost of the new borehole project, but we have received more money since then.

Next steps

Last week, we held a Trustees meeting to discuss our strategy regarding what to do next. After the borehole, our available money will be very limited but there are needs in the new secondary school and in the health college. In the former case, they will need two new classrooms each year for the next three years (maybe an investment of £15,000 each year). In the college, they need to build a roof over a new classroom and refurbish their existing dormitories. These two projects will cost around £3,000 each. We also want to start building some funds towards Phase 2 of the water project.

Currently both the college and the school are doing well and funding much of their own capital expenditure. But we very much want to help them. With our expenditure on water, it means that we will be starting from scratch in our efforts to contribute.

If you have ideas for fundraising, do let us know! Please use the email address below.

There will be a Trustees visit this year – hopefully to coincide with the completion of the borehole, and our final payment to the contractors.

Finally, the Trustees want to thank you for sticking with us. Some of you for very many years! We are small but believe that we are doing good work.

Mike Mytton (Secretary)

Contact addresses.

The following email address goes to Gary Mann (Chairman), Mike Mytton (Secretary) and Robert Cleave (Treasurer): contact@bread-trust.org.uk

If you want to contact David & Anne Curnock about sponsoring a child at school, then their email address is: dcurnock@doctors.org.uk

David and Anne also distribute this newsletter to you. If you want to unsubscribe, or ask for someone else to be put on our mailing list, then they are the people to talk to.