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The Friends of Urambo & Mwanhala



Friends of Urambo & Mwanhala
Linking the Tabora Region of Tanzania with the UK



A Message from the Honorary Secretary

Dear Friends and Supporters of FUM

This edition will be rather thinner than usual, not because FUM is not pulling its weight, but more because we have been concentrating on our ongoing projects rather than starting new ones. There is good news to report and, I suppose, most importantly, is the fact that this season the rains have been good in Tabora Region. In some respects there has been too much rain and I have had reports of houses collapsing due to water weakening the structures. Even so the likelihood is that farmers will be able to collect a good harvest this year.

This edition is the first to be produced in a format which matches the look of our website and for that we have to thank Martin Kenway for his hard work in designing and editing the newsletter. I hope you like it.

At the end of 2015, many of you purchased some of Sophie Kenway's lovely Christmas Cards and you will be pleased to know that the card not only fulfilled its purpose of spreading the FUM

brand, but also made us a small profit, thanks to the generosity of the printers, AZZ Sign & Print of Liskeard. Thanks to all concerned.

Our support for the three FDCs in Mwanhala, Urambo and Sikonge continues with the principals all very grateful for the support we afford the three institutions. The purpose of our subsidy is to enable young people who cannot afford the course fees to be helped. Di Cooper monitors this scheme and tells me that this year we are assisting 49 students, more than ever; the need is clear. It is

“ this year we are supporting 49 FDC students, more than ever ”

noticeable that the total numbers of students engaged on FDC courses is rising as the FDCs increasingly match the courses on offer to the demand. As an example, the domestic electrical installation courses now being offered match the need for

technicians able to equip homes safely as the national grid expands into smaller towns and villages.

Our sponsoring of Nzega secondary school pupils continues as well, with FUM members offering bursaries to a number of students who, because of family circumstances, cannot afford to attend secondary school. This is a way in which each one of us can easily make a huge difference to the life prospects of a young person, all for £1 per week. Elsewhere in this newsletter there is a message from Jenny Wills who monitors this bursary scheme and I know that she is very anxious to find new sponsors. Please consider this.

Jo Taylor monitors our support for village clinics and for the District Hospitals in Urambo and Nzega. She gets reports from these institutions and authorises support payments to them in response to requests for help with shortfalls in items provided through the government. At our recent officers' meeting another tranche of funds was authorised and will



soon be on its way to Tanzania. In the past our money would be sent to the District and from there to the village accounts in the places our clinics are sited. Too often the money became stuck at that level and was not passed straight on to the clinics. Last July, during her visit to Nzega District, Jo found herself forced to hold a village meeting to ensure that the money delayed in a village account was passed on promptly. As the Region develops, the village clinics are opening their own bank accounts which makes it easier for us to send money. Thankfully we are now able to ensure that the money goes directly to the clinics.

I must thank the many of you who have responded to our Jubilee Appeal. You will remember that we want to raise sufficient money to install a borehole at each of our clinics and at Sikonge and Urambo FDCs. The initial target is £50,000 which should see us about half way through the programme. So far money has been coming in slowly but steadily, so thank you to all who have responded. The majority have not and to you I would say that this is just about the most significant thing which FUM has attempted; please support us. Maybe you have not seen our appeal leaflet; if not, email or write to me and I will send you one, or several should you want to approach friends and acquaintances. Otherwise you can visit our website www.fum.org.uk and get all the information from there.

The Appeal has raised sufficient funds for us to commission our first borehole which will be in Mwasala village in Nzega District. News of progress with this will be in the autumn newsletter. I am very pleased to report that The Friends of Nzega have agreed to fund a further borehole themselves; readers may remember that they have recently commissioned a successful one in Shigamba Village. Their second borehole will be in Mbooga, again

Do you want to get more involved?

**Why not put your name forward to be an officer?
Contact Rod Smith (see last page for details)
and come along to the AGM.**

AGM Agenda - page 3

in Nzega District. The next target will be Semembele Village where a borehole will complete the work done at the clinic and at the secondary school in tandem with the Cranbrook School Project; we hope funds come in fast and that this can be started soon. Please read Isabel's report about the progress of our appeal and the plans for this year's sponsored walk.

“ The Appeal has raised sufficient funds for us to commission our first borehole which will be in Mwasala village in Nzega District. ”

For many years FUM has wanted to support nurse training at Nzega Hospital and with the newly opened nurse training school there, the opportunity has arisen at last. The Friends of Nzega are keen to join in with this scheme too and so we have agreed to fund 12 nurses at the school, the bursaries going to young people who would otherwise be unable to pay in part or in full. At this stage we are not sure quite how much each nurse will need, but we do know the two year course costs £350 and with a supplement to assist with living costs the maximum would be £500 per nurse; an astonishingly low fee and well worth the investment. I know that some people have expressed a wish to be part of this scheme and if you are one please

contact Nick, our treasurer, by email (treasurer@fum.org). An input of £500 is needed for the two year course, but if that is too much, by all means contribute a part of this.

In this newsletter are a summary of the accounts and the agenda for our AGM which, as usual, will be held in Kalendar Hall, South Street, Exeter at 2.30pm on the 9th April. I know AGMs are not the most thrilling of events, but they are important. I'm afraid that we do not have a speaker from Tanzania this year, but we will instead try to give a fuller picture than usual of our projects. Please come. Once again I should put in my pleas for anyone who wants to become more involved to put their name forward for election as an officer; we are always keen to import new ideas.

Perhaps at this stage it is worth reminding supporters that members are asked to make an annual £25 minimum contribution to FUM; we are not very good at collecting annual subs so it would be good if you could check to see if you have paid up.

I started this message thinking that I had rather little to tell you but, as usual, I have written rather more paragraphs than expected, confirming that FUM continues to pull its weight in the Tabora Region. Thank you for reading this far and thank you for your continued, generous support.

Rod Smith

THE FRIENDS OF URAMBO AND MWANHALA



NOTICE OF THE 52nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will be held at 2.30pm on the 9th April 2016

at

The Kalendar Hall, South Street, Exeter

Agenda

1. Chairman's Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of 51st Annual General Meeting
(Copies of the minutes will be available at the meeting)
4. Matters Arising from minutes
5. Treasurer's Report (Dr N Vinall)
Accounts for Financial Year ending 31st December 2015
6. Fund-raising report (Mrs Isabel Heycock)
7. FDC report (Mrs Di Cooper)
8. Health Officer's Report (Mrs Jo Taylor)
9. Hon Secretary's Report (Mr R Smith)
11. Election of Officers
(The nomination sheet will be available at the meeting)
12. AOB
13. Date of Next Meeting

Walk for Water

Join us for a day walking in the English countryside and raising money for the FUM Jubilee Appeal.



The walkers at Haytor, start of the Templer Way

Following the success of last year's sponsored walks, as a result of which we raised £3500, we will be organising two sponsored walks this summer.

On June 25th a walk in south Devon.

A 15 mile walk in the south Devon countryside. Route details available soon.

On Sept 1st a walk on the South Downs.

A 15 mile circular walk using South Downs Way footpaths near Eastbourne. Plenty of cafes and pub stops on this route.

Please think about joining us on one of these walks. Those of us who went last year found it not only a very enjoyable day, but also an easy way of raising

money. If you want to participate but feel you can only commit to a shorter distance, we would still like you to be involved.

Why not join us for a great day out?

To register for a walk or to obtain further details please contact

for south Devon:

Julie Overnell
membership@
fum.org.uk

for South Downs:

Isabel Heycock
fundraising@fum.org.uk

Jubilee Appeal Update

Since launching the Appeal last year we have raised £10,500. This is enough for us to fund the first of the boreholes we plan to install at the Village Clinics and Folk Development Colleges which we support.

We are grateful to everyone who has contributed to the Appeal so far. This first £10,000 has mostly come from individual donations from members and sponsor money from the Sponsored Walks.

During 2016 we shall be approaching Trusts in the hope of getting some substantial grants towards the project. Meanwhile, please continue contributing to the appeal via the mydonate website, or a direct debit, and also consider joining in, or setting up, a fundraising activity. If you know of a charity or trust you think might be able to help us, please let me or another committee member know about it.

Isabel Heycock

What happens to your generous donations?

Have a look at FUM's summary of accounts for last year.

The Friends of Urambo & Mwanhala
Annual Review
for the Year ended 31 December 2015
Registered Charity Number 265345

		[2014]
Balance b/f 1st January 2015	20,077	[10,719]
Income		
Standing orders	9,053	
Jubilee Appeal	6,934	
Specific donations (note i)	3,634	
General donations	2,014	
Gift Aid tax refund	2,388	
Tabora Group	985	
Interest	3	
	25,009	[25,188]
Transfers (FUM)		
FDCs support (note ii)	7,000	
Imeli bursaries (note iii)	6,000	
Tabora group schools (note iv)	2,740	
Mwasala clinic refurbishment	2,100	
Nzega hospital	1,620	
FDC Solar lamps seed-funding	989	
Mama Malyeli retirement (note v)	160	
	20,580	[15,305]
Expenses		
Bank transfer charges	135	
Newsletter printing + postage	335	
New website creation	300	
	770	[526]
Non-FUM income		
Friends of Nzega (note vi)	9,577	
Cranbrook School (note vii)	2,786	
	12,364	
Non-FUM expenditure		
Friends of Nzega (note vi)	9,577	
Cranbrook School (note vii)	2,035	
c/f £751	11,612	
Balance c/f 31st December 2015 (note viii)	24,488	[20,077]

NB Balance + 2016 income to come includes forward commitments of around £18,000

Appeal	£7,000
FDCs	£8,000
Imeli	£3,000

Notes to accounts

- i. Imeli student bursaries + Nzega hospital + Nyasa II Primary School
- ii. Poor student bursaries + vehicle support
- iii. Poor student bursaries
- iv. Support for Tabora Boys and Girls Secondary Schools
- v. Reception + present after 25 years service to FUM
- vi. Shigamba borehole
- vii. Projects during Cranbrook School group's working visit, summer 2015
- viii. Includes £751 carried forward for Cranbrook School project in Tanzania

Semembele Village

At last we have brought to conclusion the long haul to complete the construction and furnishing of the new girls' dormitory at the new secondary school in Semembele.

The finishing work has been completed with the assistance of The Cranbrook School Tanzania Project, who not only provided a large part of the funding but, as you will remember from the last newsletter, some of the labour.

The dormitory is furnished and provided with proper toilet facilities and so now the imperative is to provide an adequate water supply. The newly refurbished clinic requires dependable clean water also and we are delighted that the parents of the pupils who went on the most recent Cranbrook expedition have contributed sufficient funds to install a rainwater harvesting system.

Semembele is one of the places FUM hopes to provide with a borehole via our Jubilee Appeal and so we have commissioned a geophysical survey of the village. This will locate the best site to drill. Should this be closest to the clinic, then the rainwater project will be attached to the dormitory, but should the borehole be located close to the school, then water harvesting will be installed at the clinic. All this means that by the



The laundry room in the new building

time the next dry season comes, both institutions will have a satisfactory water supply.

The not very exciting picture above illustrates just how well equipped the building is. As well as sleeping quarters, there is a large communal area, kitchen, this laundry area, toilets and washrooms. Many congratulations to Cranbrook School for doing so much to make this building a reality and who, once again, have demonstrated how important their link is to villagers in the Tabora Region. Rod

Check Out FUM's Vibrant Website

Our website is crammed with news, photographs and loads of information about every area of our work. Just go to www.fum.org.uk on your PC or tablet, or point your mobile device at the QR code to take you straight there.



Secondary Education in Tanzania and FUM Bursaries

We recently received the good news that Secondary Education in Tanzania is free from January this year. As you probably know, FUM have been running a bursary scheme for a considerable number of years to enable needy students, mainly orphans from a large primary school, Imeli in Nzega, to attend secondary school.

Since the bursary scheme started, a huge number of students have benefitted and completed their secondary education with many going on to university. Whilst the annual bursary paid the necessary school fees, it also provided students with money for personal needs related to school attendance. As Tegile said, although education is now free, the students need funds to help them with 'personal needs like uniforms, shoes, soap, kerosene or another source of light for night study'. Therefore, although the school fees are paid, I am sure you will agree it is important for us to continue to support the

personal needs of the students we have been sponsoring. Up until now, FUM has provided sponsorship for approximately 100 students every year. Unfortunately, last year we had a shortfall of sponsors, but this year your money will be able to go twice as far. At the recent officers' meeting, after consultation with Tegile who distributes the bursaries in Tanzania, it was agreed that the bursaries will now be reduced to £30 per student per annum. That means existing sponsors will be able to sponsor twice as many students!!! I am in the process of reallocating students to existing sponsors and will be writing to you all

shortly. A big thank you to you if you are already a sponsor. If you would like to become a sponsor, you can do so for as little as £30 pa, or a monthly standing order of £5 enables you to provide bursaries for 2 students. It is amazing that such a small sum can make such a big difference in someone's life. Please respond now by contacting me (jennywills@sapo.pt) and I will send you more information.

Thank you on behalf of our students.

Jenny Wills, Education Officer

New Well For Isagenhe Village

As you will know, FUM has set itself the task of ensuring that all our clinics in Tabora Region have access to a safe and reliable water supply. In most cases this means that a borehole must be drilled, but in a few villages another option is feasible. This is the case in Isagenhe, a village in Nzega District I visited in 2013.

While there, I asked the village chairman and village executive officer about their water supply. They took me to view two wells, both with water in, but both uncapped and in need of restoration. Cranbrook School has paid for the refurbishment of one of them and now FUM has sent the £1500 required to restore the other which is seen here in a photo I took in July 2013.

The well will be deepened, cleaned and capped, then fitted with a hand pump. Mr Mndeme, the District Executive Director, assures me that, once finished, the village and clinic will have access to the clean water they so badly need.
Rod



With the village officers is Mr Gomegwa, the Nzega Clerk of Works, who will oversee the well refurbishment

FUM Officers

<p>Secretary Rod Smith Tanner House Sissinghurst Rd Biddenden Kent TN27 8EX secretary@fum.org.uk</p>	<p>Chairman Richard Pratt Redwood Ridgeway Horsell Surrey GU21 2QR chair@fum.org.uk</p>	<p>Treasurer Nick Vinall Shrewsbury Cottage Bakers Cross Cranbrook Kent TN17 3JW treasurer@fum.org.uk</p>
<p>Medical Officer Mrs Jo Taylor Jubilee Cottage Headcorn Road Frittenden TN17 2EJ jo.taylor0404@googlegmail.com</p>	<p>Press Officer John Walker 63 Collapark Totnes Devon TQ9 5LW johnderekwalker@gmail.com</p>	<p>FDC Liaison Officer Di Cooper 3 Chard Road Exeter Devon EX1 3AY alandi40@alandi40.plus.com</p>
<p>Membership Secretary Julie Overnell The Mangold House 19d Station Road Bere Alston, Yelverton Devon PL20 7EJ membership@fum.org.uk</p>	<p>Liaison Officer Tanzania Janeth Mazimba Office of the Regional Administrative Secretary PO Box 25 Tabora Tanzania janetstino@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Education Officer Jenny Wills Casa Margarida CP 56 Foral-Larga Vista 8365-091 Algoz Algarve Portugal jennywills@sapo.pt</p>
<p>Schools Liaison Officer Suzanne Horsfield 1 & 2 Welsby Cottages St Cleer Liskeard PL14 5DR sioux.horsfield@btinternet.com</p>	<p>Assistant Secretary Dr Iain Chorlton Corner Cottage Churchtown St Cleer, Liskeard Cornwall PL14 5DT iainchorlton@doctors.org.uk</p>	<p>Fundraising Officer Isabel Heycock 143 Elsenham Street London SW18 5NZ fundraising@fum.org.uk</p>
<p>Newsletter Editor Martin Kenway 3 Tremeddan Terrace Liskeard Cornwall PL14 4DU martin@martinkenway.wanadoo.co.uk</p>		



The Final Word

"I must thank the many of you who have responded to our Jubilee Appeal. So far money has been coming in slowly but steadily, so thank you to all who have responded. The majority have not and to you I would say that this is just about the most significant thing which FUM has attempted; please support us."

Best wishes
Rod Smith