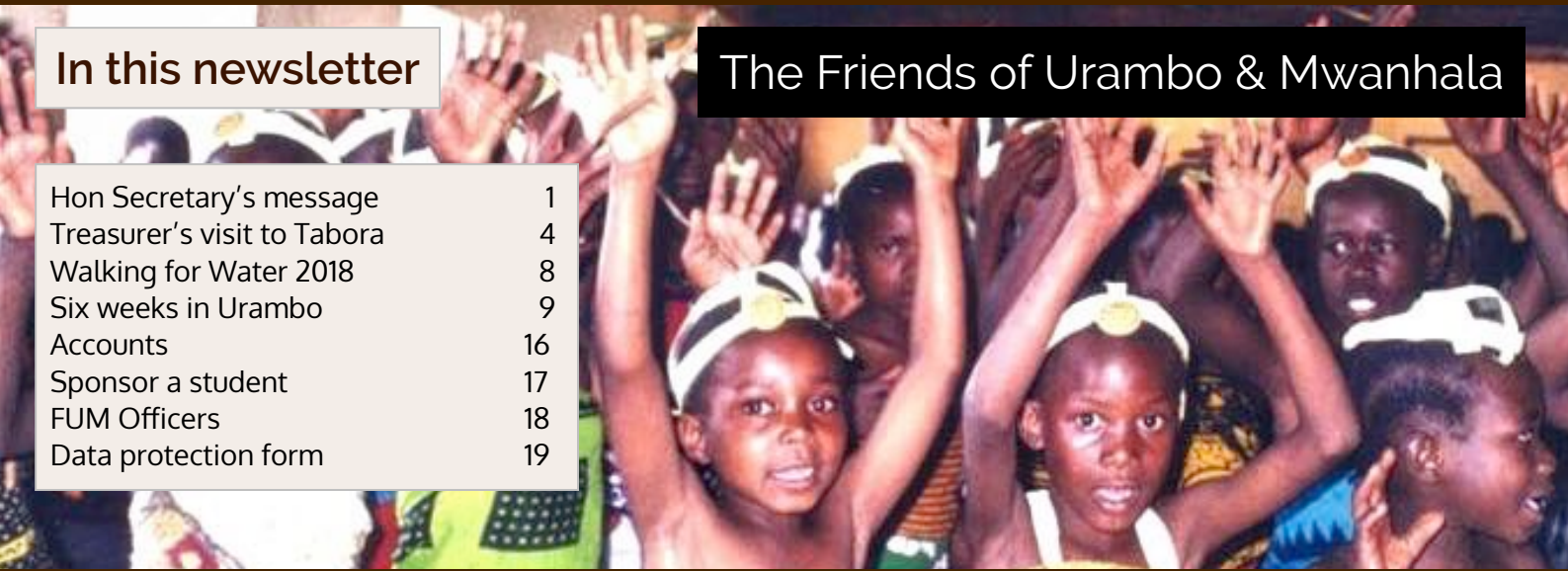


In this newsletter

Hon Secretary's message	1
Treasurer's visit to Tabora	4
Walking for Water 2018	8
Six weeks in Urambo	9
Accounts	16
Sponsor a student	17
FUM Officers	18
Data protection form	19

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

Spring greetings to all supporters and friends and very best wishes for 2018. As I write it remains cold but the signs in the garden are that the warmer weather is not so far away. Soon we will be out in our gardens planting and preparing for what I hope will be a wonderful summer.

Of course the weather is even more important to our friends in Tabora Region than it is to us as so many people there are subsistence farmers and the amount of rainfall as well as its duration has a huge effect on

prosperity. I am very pleased to report that the rains have been particularly good this season and I am getting reports of good growing conditions and high water tables from all over our region. Life is never simple however and this year there is an infestation of armyworms (see box on page 3) which, uncontrolled, can cause serious damage to crops. I have never heard of an infestation in our area before but I am told that it happens occasionally. Insecticide treatment seems to have controlled the outbreak at the

FDCs in Urambo and Mwanhala; I hope that control measures have been equally effective for everyone.

As announced in the last newsletter we closed the Jubilee Appeal having surpassed our target of £50,000. All that money has now been spent on water supplies with only two projects yet to be finished: a large water harvesting scheme at Nyasa village clinic and an ambitious borehole scheme at Maboha Village. In Nyasa the ground is not suitable to sink a

The Friends of Urambo and Mwanhala 54th Annual General Meeting

This will be held at 2.30pm on Saturday 14th April 2018

at the Buckerell Lodge Hotel, Topsham Road, Exeter, Ex2 4SQ

Please note that this is a change in venue from that advertised in the Autumn Newsletter



borehole and so we have funded the construction of a large underground tank (96,000 litres). Collected water will be used to fill this and will then be pumped as needed to a smaller raised holding tank using a small solar pump. By this means the clinic will have at least 500 litres of clean water available each day. The picture shows the masons building the wall of the large holding tank. I will include details of the finished project in the autumn newsletter. I am happy to say that this scheme has been greatly assisted by a grant from Sutton Coldfield Rotary Club. SCRC gave a generous grant during the construction of the clinic and decided to follow that with a contribution to the water supply. I will include details of the finished project in the autumn newsletter.

The Maboha Scheme is more ambitious and is a joint endeavour funded by FUM and Kaliua District. A borehole has been sunk just outside the village and testing has shown that it is capable of providing 7000 litres of water each hour. Using solar pumping, this water will be moved to raised holding tanks in the village centre and at the clinic, so giving everyone access to a safe water supply. The District then intends to extend the pipeline to Usinge village about 15km away as part of a much larger water supply scheme using the water from nearby

Lake Sagara. This scheme is being carefully planned but there should be water available in Maboha village by the end of the year, sooner we hope.

All the schemes we installed using the Jubilee fund money are now working satisfactorily although there is a minor piece

of their water, the FDC will deliver water to the clinic on a daily basis. Elsewhere the supplies to Semembele and Mbooga clinics are operating to plan, but I have not heard recently from Isegenhe although I imagine that, with the good rainfall there has been, the two wells there will now be

functioning. The FDCs at Urambo and Sikonge have been connected to their municipal supplies in addition to having extensive rainwater harvesting installations. All told, I feel that the Appeal has had remarkable success.

What next? Always seeking funds for projects we consider of high importance, we are launching a new fundraising initiative. Isabel, our fund-raising expert, feels that it is easier to focus on a specific target when seeking donations and perhaps the success of the Jubilee Appeal demonstrates the truth of that. Thus we are giving you a new target, hoping that you will use it to spur yourselves into action and seek out more donors. We have adopted three more MCH clinics, meaning that we

now support fourteen altogether. Some of these are still lacking safe water supplies and two clinics are badly in need of accommodation for nurses. We have decided to concentrate on Ibambo Clinic and attempt to raise money for both a house for nurses and a



Masons building the wall of a 96,000 litre water collecting tank at Nyasa village clinic

of welding needed to repair the Mwasala hand pump. Those of you with good memories will recall that the Mwasala supply was funded by The Friends of Nzega (FON). The supply at Mwanhala FDC is now proving its worth and it has been agreed that, as payment for

large rainwater harvesting scheme or a borehole. To achieve this, we have to raise £20,000 and so that is your target for this year. With this newsletter is a flyer which may help you concentrate the minds of your friends and family as you persuade them to contribute to our appeal. There are plenty of ways in which funds can be raised as was clear from the reports in the last newsletter, but we are always happy to help with new initiatives. So get thinking, get fundraising and, if you can't think of what to do, come and join one of our sponsored walks.

In this newsletter you will read of Nick Vinall's visit to Tabora Region last year and also a piece written by his daughter Joanna. Joanna was allowed a sabbatical term by her school and decided to spend it

teaching in Urambo Secondary School and in a Tabora based day care centre. Both accounts are very interesting and give a good idea of the area in which our work is focused.

The last page of this newsletter explains how we will adhere to the requirements of the new data protection legislation. We keep your contact details in a computer file held on the membership secretary's computer and shared with other officers which enables us to send you newsletters and the occasional mailing. We are required to have your permission to do this and so ask that you complete the back page and return by post or else send an email to the membership secretary confirming that you are happy for us to continue to hold your contact details. If it is easier, you can simply scan the form

and email that. Those of you whom we reach by email may like to send us your postal address as well as this can be useful if we lose contact through you changing your email and not remembering to acquaint us of that.

Finally I should point out that we have had to change the venue of our AGM. For many years Exeter School have allowed us to use Kalendar Hall but this year they will be using it themselves, leaving us without a venue. This year the AGM will be in Buckeridge Lodge Hotel at 2.30pm on Saturday 24th April – details are elsewhere in this newsletter. Do come to the AGM. Many of us will be taking lunch at the hotel before the meeting so please join us for lunch and a chat.

Rod Smith

The African armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)

The African armyworm is a moth larva which can emerge in huge numbers causing serious damage to vegetation and crops. The larvae often exhibit marching behaviour when travelling to feeding sites, leading to the common name "armyworm". African armyworm outbreaks tend to be devastating for farmland and pasture, with the highest density outbreaks occurring during the rainy season after periods of prolonged drought, whereas during the long dry seasons the population densities are very low and no outbreaks are seen.



Armyworms marching along a road in Tanzania



Adult armyworm moth

Treasurer's visit to Tabora September 2017

Click on any underlined word in this article to read extra relevant information from the FUM website.

With our daughter Joanna doing voluntary work in Tabora for four months, my wife Mary and I spent four weeks in Tanzania, with half in Tabora Region. At our expense we visited recently completed FUM projects and assessed possible new projects.

Care was taken to avoid duplication of visits made the year before by our chairman Richard Pratt and medical liaison officer Jo Taylor, and also the visits to clinics by the three UK doctors during their medical elective spell at Urambo Hospital earlier in 2017.

We were extremely grateful to our local co-ordinators for the enormous help they gave us in organising transport and scheduling meetings with important local dignitaries. Special thanks must go to Venance Gomegwa in Nzega District, Baraka Makona in Tabora, Lucky Mgeni in Sikonge and around Urambo District, and Godfrey Hisraeli in Kaliua District.

First stop was Mwanza, flying in from Dar es Salaam to visit Mama Neema Malyeli who is now retired there with her family. For many years, as Principal of Mwanhala FDC, Neema hosted visits by Cranbrook School students and teachers doing valuable work in FUM clinics and villages. Nothing was ever too much trouble for her.



A four hour drive on the new tarmac road took us to Mwanhala FDC and a reception by the current Principal Mr Mwadua. Neema came with us. She had planned to meet quietly her old friends there but instead she became the star of the show which delighted her.

Nzega District

Mwanhala

Here the extent of the reported drought became apparent. Poor rains the previous winter meant that many usually reliable water sources had dried up for the first time in 10 years. At Mwanhala FDC, even with its 100m deep borehole, the fall in the level of the water table meant that the FDC was struggling to meet demand. Many villagers had to buy

water from local entrepreneurs at three times the normal price.

More heartening was Mwanhala Primary School where the well refurbished by FUM is giving good water. The handpump was bought with help from Horsell C of E Junior School's Running to Mwanhala project.

Only a mile away Mwanhala clinic was having to buy water. Despite this temporary problem, staff at the clinic were adamant that their most pressing need is for a staff house. At £18,000 this is more than FUM can afford, but local people have offered to contribute £2000 of work and Jo Taylor is inviting Nzega District Council to contribute too.

A courtesy meeting with the Nzega District Commissioner, the Honourable Godfrey Ngupula, was very beneficial and he is now a firm supporter of FUM's work. Thanks to Education Officer Mr Jackson Mhinga we met most of the poor and orphaned students from Imeli Primary School who receive bursary support from



With Nzega District Commissioner, the Honourable Godfrey Ngupula

FUM members. We took their photographs for distribution by Jenny Wills to sponsors. We were impressed with the rigour of the process for distributing the bursary monies.

Nurses

To help alleviate the shortage of nurses at Nzega Hospital, FUM and our colleagues at Friends of Nzega (FON) have for some years wanted to support poor local citizens who wish to train as nurses for two years and then be employed at the hospital. This had not proved possible so far because of the government's centralised system for nurse training and employment. Discussions with the District Medical Officer Dr Sengo centred on this issue and it is heartening that a possible solution has been identified. Separately, a route has now been established for some current Nzega nurses to upgrade their skills and we are supporting our first such nurse. Our aim is to support several students each year. We visited the smart new Nursing School in Nzega and the old building, now used as extra dormitories. The electrics here were in very

poor condition but have now been overhauled thanks to funding from FON.

Mbooga

We visited here to see the progress with the large rainwater harvesting scheme paid for by FUM. This was well advanced and is now in full use. The clinic was being upgraded, including tiled walls and floors, thanks to a government RBF grant for good performance.



Mbooga village executive outside the clinic

Semembela

The FUM borehole and pump were completed in 2017 and are much appreciated by villagers. The girls' dormitory at the secondary school is almost at capacity with 32 girls in residence who would otherwise not have been able to attend the school. The clinic, one of FUM's very first, a Gillett clinic built in 1983, has largely been superseded by a smart new one funded by World Vision, but it still provides useful accommodation for vaccinations, ante-natal and counselling.

Mwasala

The FUM borehole and pump, completed in 2016, were still giving good water despite the drought. The doctor's house was looking good after work by FUM and the patients' new toilets at the clinic were nearing completion. The clinic was being upgraded with a government RBF grant.

Malilita

This Gillett clinic from 1983 was in very good condition thanks to its RBF (Government Results Based Funding) grant. Storage

arrangements for medicines were excellent, the best we saw. John Gillett would have been proud of 'his' clinic. We were entertained with a very imaginative song and dance routine by local school children, including a very imaginative musical 'wish list' for future support from FUM!

Nyasa 2 Primary School

The population increase (which is happening nationwide) means that the school is almost bursting at the seams with over 3000 pupils. The government now provides free tuition but as a result has little money for extra teachers or buildings. There are two 'shifts' for teaching, yet classes still average over 70 pupils. The 1500 boys have just four toilets so FUM, with help from St Germans Primary School in Cornwall, is paying for another seven to be built.

Imeli Primary School

FUM has a long association with Imeli PS, helping to transform it from an inner-city sink school to one of the most popular in Nzega. FUM is also providing bursaries for its poor

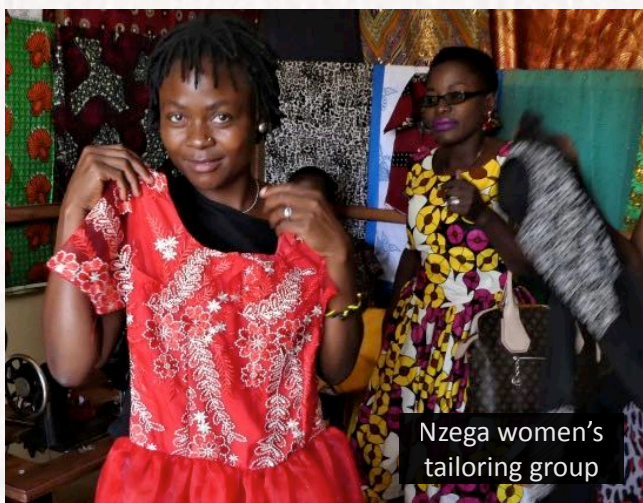


Fire Dance welcome at Imeli School

and orphaned students to attend secondary school. Like Nyasa 2 it now has a chronic shortage of boys' toilets so FUM is helping to build more.

Isagenhe

The two shallow wells were refurbished by FUM in 2014 and 2015 and looked in good condition, but both were dry for the first time in seven years. The clinic was still in good condition after being repainted by Cranbrook School students in 2015 and the ceiling repaired in 2016. The head teacher at the primary school is interested in having a link with Bere Alston PS in Devon but communication is not easy.



Nzega women's tailoring group

Brief visits were also made to Mwanhala Secondary School whose great wish is for a girls' boarding hostel similar to that at Semembela and to a small but lively women's tailoring group in Nzega with a shop selling their bright and beautifully finished designs.

Tabora

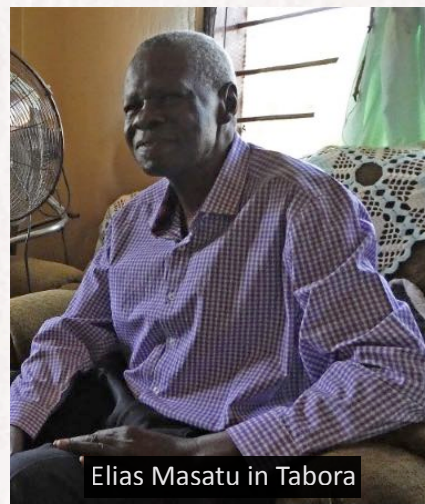
Meetings with senior politicians such as the District and Regional Commissioners were cancelled three times due to their other more pressing commitments. A particular pleasure was meeting again Elias Masatu, FUM's co-ordinator for over 25 years until his retirement. As always he looked very smart. His mind is still sharp but his English has suffered a little due to a slight stroke.

Sikonge FDC

A month before our visit a serious fire destroyed the administration block and all the college records. Although there is an ongoing investigation, it seemed clear that the cause was an electrical fault in a light switch. We were impressed with the efforts of the new

Acting Principal Mr Shilinde and his staff to maintain the curriculum and prepare students for their important examinations in November/ December. As a result FUM has restored the bursary payments (for poor students) that

were suspended after the fire. The loss of the administration block roof seriously affected water collection at the college. As a result, with on-site advice from Mr Lucky and the local water company head Mr Benjamin, FUM paid for some



Elias Masatu in Tabora

replacement capacity and this was completed in time for the November rains. An unexpected positive development from the fire is that the College Board has been reinstated after several years' dormancy and is already generating resources to help get the college back on its feet.

Urambo and Kaliua Districts

Urambo FDC

We were pleased to be able to stay in Devon House, the guest accommodation maintained by FUM for many years, and where the three UK doctors stayed during their elective placements earlier in the year. UK guests pay £6 per night for board and lodging, a useful source of income for the FDC. Under the energetic leadership of the Principal Mr Herman



Lively kindergarten at Urambo FDC

Nestory, the FDC has strong student numbers and is doing well. Students come from a wide area, one even from the coast about 700 miles away. Although the FDC is now connected to Urambo town water supply, the region-wide drought, together with a town pumping problem, meant that water was limited. Poor maintenance resulted in the college vehicle being out of action for three months but it is now repaired and a new maintenance schedule is in place.

Urambo Hospital

The hospital serves a wide area including outlying villages from which patients often arrive by motorbike taxi. The Director, Dr Kanani, showed us the impressive new maternity Waiting Unit where expectant mothers can stay for the days



New maternity Waiting Unit at Urambo

before their delivery is due. Funds for it were raised by the local MP Mama Sitta and she is now working on funding for a new Delivery Unit. With the hospital having up to 150 deliveries per month the two new delivery beds, funded in 2017 by the Cranbrook School charity appeal, were much appreciated. Also appreciated were the three

UK doctors, Dele, Jane and Adam, who spent their six week 'medical elective' placement in Urambo, supported by FUM. Read Adam and Jane's Report.

Maboha

The FUM clinic built in 1999 was in good condition, including solar lighting, thanks to its government RBF grant. It is staffed by Dr Florian and Nurse Regina but the staff houses need refurbishment. The big problem is water which the clinic has to buy. The closest reliable sources are nearly 2km away, at Lake Sagara and at a dangerous open well near the lake. FUM's water consultants, Mr Lucky and Mr Godfrey, together with the Kaliua district water

engineer are working on an ambitious plan for a solar powered pumping system to supply water to the village and the clinic. The cost of £15,000 will be shared equally between FUM and Kaliua district.

Usimba

Its government RBF grant means that the clinic and separate larger maternity unit are both in good condition and



Dangerous open well at Maboha

very well organised. Water is not a problem. The primary school has 1000 students with 8 classrooms and 22 teachers. As elsewhere it is in poor decorative condition and the headmaster would welcome help from a visiting school group from UK.

Nyasa

After a five hour drive on dirt roads from Urambo we found this large clinic to be in good condition with the government funded improvements nearing completion. There is a medical officer and two nurses though one was on leave. Solar panels provide power for lighting and, unusually, for the vaccine fridge. The large entrance lobby gives an excellent waiting area and is also used for public health displays and talks.

Water is still a big problem. The clinic pays for it to be brought from the top of a 100m high hill about 1 km away - bizarre! With the help of a generous supporter's donation, FUM is paying for the clinic's large roof area to harvest

rainwater into a 96,000 litre subterranean concrete tank. A solar pump will raise the water as needed.

Early in 2018 villagers dug the very large hole needed and 'fundis' (workmen) have started

building the tank walls for later waterproofing.

Nick Vinall
FUM Hon Treasurer

Walking for Water 2018

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

Following the success of last year's walks, which raised £9500, we will again be organising two sponsored walks this summer.



Tired but happy walkers at Birling Gap, the end of the South Downs walk.

On June 16th a walk on the Devon/Cornwall border.

A 15 mile walk in the Devon countryside avoiding steep hills we hope. 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.

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.

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

Six weeks in Urambo

A report by Joanna Vinall

I spent six weeks in Urambo as part of a four month trip to Tanzania. At Tabora airport I was met by Mr Nestory, Principal of Urambo FDC, and several members of staff. I wondered why so many came and thought maybe they had come to Tabora for other reasons and were just making the most of a free lift back. I learned later that this welcoming of visitors by a group of people is an integral part of Tanzanian culture.

Arriving at the FDC, there were the other members of staff waiting for us. Mama Muro, in charge of catering at the college, had cooked a meal for everyone as part of my welcome. Although I am not a big meat eater at the best of times, I accepted the chicken that was offered as it seemed rude to refuse. Big mistake! Tanzanian chicken is as tough as leather and as every single part of the chicken is used, you never know quite what you are eating. At every meal, whether at home or in a restaurant, you will find boxes of toothpicks and as soon as a meal is finished Tanzanians use them to get the meat out of their teeth. In the evening Mr Nestory invited me out for a drink with the FDC nurse and IT teacher. We drove to the pub in his small car, gospel music playing at full blast, and I



couldn't help thinking how this warm welcome compared with what an overseas visitor might receive at my school in UK.

Devon House, originally the manager's house when Urambo FDC was a farm and part of the ill-fated East Africa Groundnut Project, was a fairly comfortable place to stay. Food was cooked by Muro and brought over by students. Unlike many of the other buildings at the

FDC, Devon House had electricity and running water. However, power cuts are a regular feature of Tanzanian life. During my stay in Urambo we would have no power three or four days a week. Water needed to be pumped up from the town to the FDC and not infrequently the town pump would break down or overheat and there would be no running water at the college.

Urambo town is fairly spread out so on my first day I bought a second hand bike. I used it every day to get to the school





With Jackson (FDC Liaison Officer, Urambo) leaving Devon House

so the sign 'wakala' (agent) is seen everywhere. Other mobile networks have now set up their own systems, including tigo pesa and halo-pesa. By providing a formal financial system to millions of people who would never have access to traditional bank accounts, mobile money has transformed the business world in Tanzania.

Urambo town has a population of around 25,000, which is about the same as Nzega town. However, compared to Nzega, Urambo is much more rural and there is very little to do, particularly as a mzungu. Although there are people selling beans and rice to locals, there are no obvious cafes as there are in Nzega where you can sit and have a tea

where I was teaching, to go into town which is 1km from the FDC, or just to go exploring. Punctures are a common occurrence but fortunately you are never far from a bicycle repair man and the Swahili word for puncture, pancha, is nice and easy.



'm-pesa' is seen on signs outside shops

Wherever you go in Tanzania you will hear people shout out 'mzungu' (white person) as you walk down the street. Urambo is a very rural town and during my time there I never saw another white person. As a single white female I attracted a lot of attention and it often felt that every person I went past would call out 'mzungu'. Although there is rarely any malice behind this, I did find it quite tiring mentally and often

wished I could just blend into the crowd.

The word 'm-pesa' is seen on signs outside many shops in Urambo. This is a mobile phone-based money transfer system set up by Vodafone in 2007 and allows users to deposit, withdraw, transfer money and pay for goods and services using their mobile phone. Many shops act as banking agents

or something to eat. I did become friends with a woman who had a bench in the street and sold chai (tea) and delicious chapattis and so I would sometimes go there for breakfast. Apart from the pub visited with Mr Nestory the only entertainment found was the local 'theatre' which (only!) screened football matches,



Urambo is a rural town



The local 'theatre'



Jackson, Rasheed (on the phone – another teacher) and the football team boys walking the 2km to the pub



Locals augment their income by selling stone

mostly from the English Premier League. It is very much a male pastime and when I watched Chelsea play Tottenham, I was the only woman with about 100 men!

Shortly before I left Urambo I decided to take all the boys in the football team out to the pub, along with some of the other teachers from the FDC and Mr Nestory. None of the boys had ever been out in Urambo before so it was a big event for them. They all ate meat soup and chips and then we spent the rest of the evening dancing on the 16 square metre dance floor!

As well as the main town centre, there is 'little Urambo' the other side of the FDC which just has a few shops selling basic necessities. To walk there you have to pass through an area of mud brick houses where



Large holes in the ground make walking in the dark dangerous

many of the locals augment their income by selling the stone from the ground around their houses. The process involves the men digging out the stone and piling up fairly large chunks of it. The women then spend the whole day sitting on the ground in the intense heat, smashing the stones into tiny



Stone is piled up ready for breaking

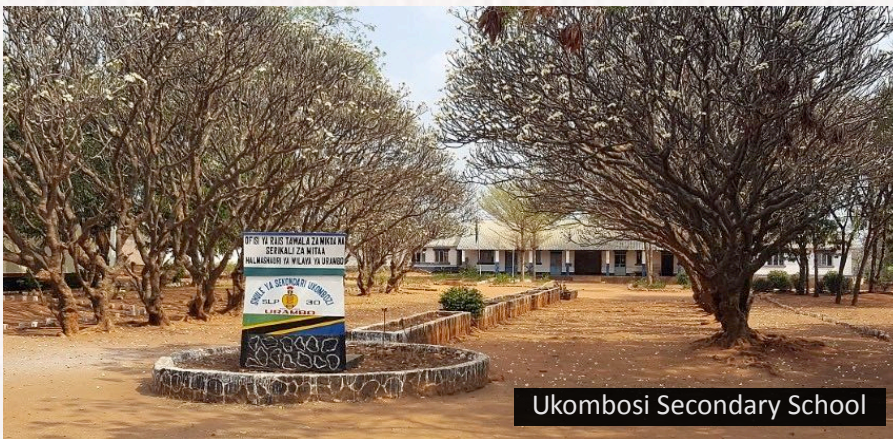
pieces so that it can be used in the foundations of buildings. This is leading to big holes in the ground, which make walking back

from little Urambo in the dark rather dangerous. The FDC has complained to the local council as some of the rock is being taken from land owned by the FDC, but so far this has not put an end to the practice.

In Urambo I taught English as a Foreign Language to Form 4 students (Year 11 in UK) at Ukombosi Secondary School. I had decided to focus on speaking during the lessons and found their ability in English varied enormously.



Little Urambo



Ukombosi Secondary School

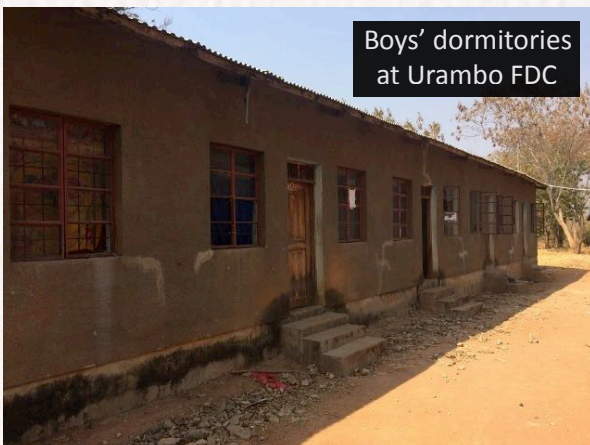
Some were able to speak really quite well and I could have proper conversations with them, whilst others struggled even to just say a few sentences. As a teacher in the UK I am used to preparing lessons that include a variety of different tasks or activities for the students. This is very different from the Tanzanian approach which relies heavily on 'chalk and talk'. I often had other teachers at the back of the classroom to watch my lessons and take ideas to use with their classes. The school had one desktop computer and one laptop for use by the staff although only one or two of the teachers seemed to know how to use them and there is no email address for the school. I gave lessons in Excel to one of the teachers who was keen to learn how to use a spreadsheet for recording pupils' results.

There seemed to be many problems with the Tanzanian education system. Probably the biggest for pupils is that primary education is in Swahili but examinations at secondary school are in English. English is taught as a subject in primary schools but many pupils leave barely being able to read or write it. Few secondary school teachers speak English well so lessons are typically taught in Swahili, but the textbooks are in English and the important Form 4 examinations (similar to GCSE in the UK) are written in English. Consequently many pupils do very badly in these examinations, not because they lack ability but because they have such poor English skills.

For students at the FDC lessons begin at 8am. There is a break from 10.00 to 10.30am when the students are served porridge

for their breakfast; lessons then continue until 2.30pm. Dinner at 7pm is usually rice and beans or ugali and beans. I have taught IT in UK so I helped out in some FDC lessons, for the short and long courses. Students on other courses such as electrical installation and mechanical engineering also have IT lessons, but the college only has half a dozen computers, all old and pretty slow, so students get little opportunity to practise their skills. Internet access is via a mobile wi-fi router; the connection is often painfully slow and the college does not always have the funds to buy data bundles for the router. There is no projector so teachers have to talk through the instructions on how to complete different tasks rather than display them. There are also regular power cuts. These problems make teaching extremely difficult.

The facilities for the students who live at the college are very basic. The dormitories are fairly dilapidated; few of the windows have glass in them, the roofs have holes and there are many leaks in heavy rain. The toilets and washing facilities are also old and a



Boys' dormitories at Urambo FDC



FDC student toilets



FDC students outside their dormitory



Muro, in charge of catering at the FDC, cooking ugali

number of the students I knew got infections possibly contracted from washing in dirty water.

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday students can play sport from 3.30pm to 6.30pm. The FDC liaison officer, Jackson, is also the football coach. Often in the past the college did not even have enough money to buy footballs but during his time as Principal, Mr Nestory has supported the boys and very basic equipment has been bought. Jackson was keen to enter the football team into the local league and as the college did not have the money to do this, I offered to pay. This meant I acquired the status of 'football manager' at the FDC and I ended up spending quite a lot of time going to training

sessions and matches and getting to know the boys. Very few of the boys had ever spoken to a white person and as a white woman in a teacher-like role, they were very respectful and rather shy initially. But they soon seemed to feel at ease and I had a huge

of room the boys insisted that I had enough space to sit down.

Although 'mitumba' (imported second-hand clothing) is big business in Tanzania, traditional African clothes and all school uniforms are made by hand and so tailoring

courses are popular.

There are some men working as tailors but the majority are women and there are currently only girls on the tailoring course at the FDC. As with all the courses at the college, a lack of resources makes teaching a challenge. There is often only enough material for the class to make one or two garments and so

each girl only gets to complete one part of the process. The class were extremely grateful for the supplies of cottons, embroidery yarn, pins and elastic that my mum brought



One of boys borrowed a 'bajaje'

amount of fun with them. The last match in the league was an away game and one of boys borrowed a 'bajaje' (motorised rickshaw). We all squeezed into the trailer and despite the lack



I acquired the status of 'football manager' at the FDC



The FDC football team before a league match – see how dry the pitch is!

Measuring up the young models



when she and dad came to visit.

I helped Jackson take a tailoring class one day as Madam Blandina, the sewing teacher, had to take another student to hospital. The girls were designing a top for a young child and seemed to be guessing the measurements. I suggested we got a real life child to act as a model and so Jackson recruited two young boys from the FDC nursery in the room next door!

When I asked why there was no netball at the FDC, I was told it was because there was no money for a netball or kit for the girls. My sister very kindly offered to give some money to buy a ball and kit. Jackson investigated the cost of buying netball kits but he and Madam Blandina decided it would be cheaper for the students to make the kit themselves. It would also provide excellent practice for the tailoring students.

Most of the students come from fairly poor families and so

The students, Jackson and Madam Blandina (sewing teacher)



calls so relied on texts which are much cheaper. Many of the players did not have their own football boots so had to borrow from other students. All the

boots were in a very poor condition; many seemed to have more hole than boot and were held together by string and duct tape. On hearing about the boots, a friend of mine in UK with two football-mad sons, collected over thirty pairs of used boots and these were brought over by my boyfriend when he came to visit. Before



The main sport for female students in Tanzania is netball.

the fees for the college are often paid by several members of their extended family. FUM provides bursaries for students who have no means of paying the fees or of supporting themselves while at college. Although they all had mobile phones, most could not afford to make

I left, I was presented with a 'Certificate of Appreciation' for the support I had given the team. I felt very moved and somewhat embarrassed by this but it was very typical of the warmth and appreciative nature often shown by Tanzanians. It highlighted how, what to us in UK can seem a relatively insignificant gesture, can be met with such gratitude by Tanzanians.

The red netball team kits





Cooking goat stew with Ernest



Iddy with the goat stew

In November the Year 2 students had their graduation. By then I had moved to Tabora town to help out at a Day Care Centre there but I was very honoured to be invited back to attend the ceremony. The day started off at 6am with a goat being slaughtered as it was Mr Nestory's birthday. He is very popular with the students and is seen as a father figure by many. He will be greatly missed by staff and students when he retires. By 10am goat stew was ready for staff and other visitors to the college.

A number of 'important guests' attended the graduation ceremony. The guest of honour was the District Commissioner who gave a lengthy speech to the ceremony then some of the students performed some short comedy sketches – even though I don't understand much Swahili I found them

very funny and it was interesting to see the different talents of some of the students I knew. Mr Nestory also spoke. As many of the students are boarders and spend a lot of time together, they form very close friendships and so many of the Year 1 students were sad at the prospect of the Year 2 students leaving.

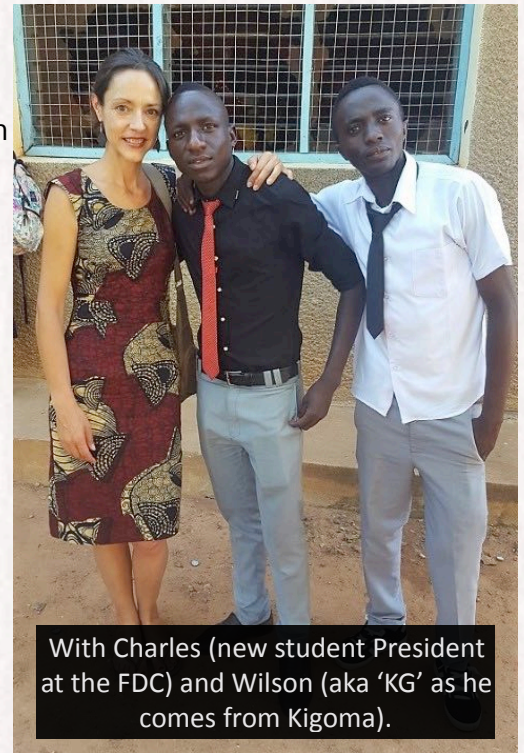
I think most people who spend a period of time in Tanzania develop a love-hate (or rather, love-intense frustration) relationship with the country. Lack of resources, red tape, and lengthy delays are just some of the problems that make getting things done in Tanzania very difficult, particularly as a foreigner, but the warmth, generosity and friendship that Tanzanians offer more than outweigh these problems. I am sure my relationship with Tanzania will be a long one and I can't wait to return..... this summer!



Some Year 1 students at the graduation ceremony



Year 2 students dancing in the graduation ceremony



With Charles (new student President at the FDC) and Wilson (aka 'KG' as he comes from Kigoma).

FUM accounts Jan - Dec 2017
(excluding Jubilee Appeal, see below)

		2017	[2016]
Balance b/f 1st January 2017		15,739	[17,554]
Income (exc Jubilee Appeal)			
Standing orders	9,316		
Imeli cheque donations	600		
General cheque donations	4,006		
Cranbrook School	1,650		
Gift Aid tax refund from 2016	2,027		
Miscellaneous (<i>Neema, Gomegwa, Devon House</i>)	1,564		
PayPal	110		
Interest	2	<u>19,274</u>	[18,404]
Transfers (FUM)			
Mwanhala FDC (<i>bursaries + vehicle</i>)	2,529		
Sikonge FDC (<i>bursaries, water improvement works</i>)	3,649		
Urambo FDC (<i>bursaries, equipment, Devon House, + vehicle</i>)	5,714		
Imeli bursaries	3,300		
Urambo+Kaliua clinics + hospital	1,900		
Urambo hospital delivery beds	1,911		
Mwanhala Primary School Well	2,676		
Gomegwa+Mayeli+doctors local travel	545		
Nzega nurse support	191		
Treasurer local disbursements	929		
Nyasa 2 + Imeli PS toilets (<i>part</i>)	1,294	<u>24,638</u>	[19,783]
Expenses			
Bank transfer charges	285		
Newsletter printing + postage	22	<u>307</u>	[436]
Balance 31st Dec 2017		10,068	[15,739]

Non FUM item (income + expenditure)			
Nzega Nursing School electrics (FON)	625		

Jubilee Appeal summary to 31 Dec 2017 (now closed)

Appeal Income

2015 + 2016	29,073	
2017	21,924	<u>50,997</u>

Appeal Expenditure

2016 Semembela borehole	11,280	
Mbooga rainwater harvesting	12,111	
Mwasala top-up	1,100	
Sikonge Water Co. (<i>initial test payment</i>)	76	
2017 Mwanhala FDC borehole	4,692	
Urambo FDC water connection	1,439	
Sikonge FDC water connection	2,353	
Nyasa clinic	9,470	<u>42,522</u>

Closing balance at 31 Dec 2017

8,475

This is scheduled for use with the Maboha water project; also for minor works at Mwasala and Mwanhala (approximately £200)

£60 a year for a secondary school education?

Primary education in Tanzania is free, but a small charge is made for a place at a secondary school or at a Folk Development College. There are also maintenance costs, uniform and equipment which must be paid for, but because of family circumstances, for many young people even the small fees required are beyond their means. FUM does its best within our limited funds to assist by providing bursaries to students at our three FDCs and running a scheme to assist secondary school pupils in Nzega.

Currently FUM supports 100 secondary school pupils, paying their fees and giving a small cash grant to purchase essential equipment and clothing. The success of this scheme depends on the very many FUM supporters who sponsor students directly.



Can you imagine a better way of supporting a developing country than ensuring that its young people receive an education? Surely this is the most effective use of your money and you can join the scheme so easily. We ask that you donate £5 per month, assuring that your donation continues for the time it takes for your sponsored pupil to complete their secondary education i.e. five years.

If you are interested in joining in with our bursary scheme, please contact Jenny Wills, our Education Officer. Her contact details are on the FUM Officers page of this newsletter or you could simply email her by clicking this link: casamargarida@icloud.com

Supporting development in the Tabora Region through education

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@googlemail.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>Fundraising Officer Isabel Heycock 143 Elsenham Street London SW18 5NZ fundraising@fum.org.uk</p>	<p>Education Officer Jenny Wills Casa Margarida CP 56 Foral-Larga Vista 8365-091 Algoz Algarve, Portugal casamargarida@icloud.com</p>
<p>Assistant Secretary Dr Iain Chorlton Corner Cottage, Churchtown St Cleer, Liskeard Cornwall PL14 5DT iainchorlton@doctors.org.uk</p>	<p>Regional Liaison Officer Baraka Makona PO Box 25 Tabora Tanzania</p>	<p>Newsletter Editor Martin Kenway 3 Tremeddan Terrace Liskeard Cornwall PL14 4DU mkenway@icloud.com</p>

The FUM Website

Our website is crammed with news, photographs and 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.



Why Not Sponsor a Student Nurse?

Contact our Medical Officer Jo Taylor for more information. See details above, or if you are reading on screen, click on the link below to email her.

[Email Jo](mailto:jo.taylor@fum.org.uk)

Nzega Hospital Nursing School



The Final Word

Don't forget about the change of venue of our AGM. This year the AGM will be in Buckeridge Lodge Hotel at 2.30pm on Saturday 24th April. Please do come, and why not join us for lunch at the hotel before the meeting?

Best wishes
Rod Smith

The Mangold House
19d Station Rd
Bere Alston
Yelverton
Devon

PL20 7EJ

membership@fum.org.uk

February 2018

The Friends of Urambo and Mwanhala – Data Protection Regulations GDPR 2018

Dear FUM Supporter

As you may be aware a new law is coming into force in May 2018.

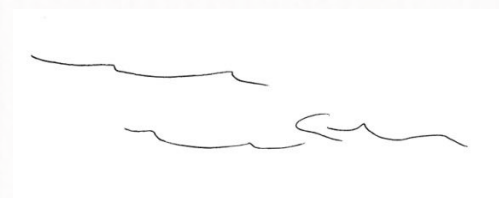
We currently hold your contact details on our “contacts” list and use these to send you our newsletter twice a year as well as other occasional communications.

However, under the new regulations we are required to obtain your consent to keep your details and to contact you by means of post, email or telephone. Please find enclosed a simple form for you to sign and return to the above address by post or email if you wish to continue to receive correspondence from us.

It is much simpler and cheaper to make contact via email. If you have access to the internet, please let us have your email address. We are happy to continue sending you a paper copy of the newsletter, although this is expensive in terms of printing and postage.

Please contact me if you have any queries.

Yours faithfully,



Julie Overnell

Membership Secretary,
The Friends of Urambo and Mwanhala

The Friends of Urambo and Mwanhala

Registered Charity Number 265345

General Data Protection Regulations 2018 [GDPR]

FUM keeps a record of the contact details of all our supporters. This involves names, addresses, phone numbers and emails where applicable.

This information is stored on a home computer and is used solely by FUM officers to contact members and supporters to inform them of activities and events.

In addition we record the dates of birth of the members of our management committee as required by the Charity Commission.

The data we keep is never revealed to a third party or circulated to any other organisation.

Under the 2018 Data Protection regulations we are required to inform you we keep this information and to obtain your consent to store and use it as described above.

Please confirm your consent by signing the following;

Name [Capital letters please].....

Signature Date

I understand I can unsubscribe at any time by contacting the Secretary;

The Membership Secretary FUM

The Mangold House,
19d Station Road,
Bere Alston, Yelverton,
Devon, PL20 7EJ

Or email - membership@fum.org.uk