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NEW MILL BUILDING

We waited for the gap between the dwindling supply of last year's maize and the incoming harvest to shut down milling operations to move the machine from the cramped housing at the back of the property to the new much larger building near the entrance gate.

The operation took two weeks with many modifications made before seeing the machine operating again. We are glad not to have every Tom, Dick and Harriette going right through the property to reach the old mill site. Now the harvest has come in, milling has started with a vengeance with bags of maize lined up many yards outside the building exacerbated by daily and quite long power cuts. Our hard working millers often have to work through the night to catch up on wasted time. We are looking to buy substantial quantities of maize, finance willing, to see us through the year. The reverberations of the 'global crunch' is having an effect even on the poorest here as prices rise and hunger bites deeper ■



FOOTBALL

Zambia has a history of football mania. Our lads are obviously part of Zambian history! They were thrilled to have Jamie's help for the past three months. He is a volunteer from England who has enthusiastically participated in many of the Isubilo activities not least coaching our lads in football. He is an ardent Watford supporter (we won't hold that against him) who has had not a little experience with the game and coaching.

The staff team have re-grouped too, resulting in much rivalry between the youth and the staff. Outside matches have been organised showing that team work and improved skill are paying off. We are grateful to Jamie for his all round help including moving the mill machine. We wish to thank Sherbourne College for the wonderful sports wear which our teams have been able to sport as well as substantial quantities of high quality clothes for our children and youth ■

DONATE ON LINE

We can now take on-line donating via our website www.isubilo.org

This has been made possible by a donation link to the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) website which can take on-line donations to all major credit and debit cards and set up on-line direct debits. CAF registered charity number is 268369

Isubilo Community Resource Centre was registered under the Zambia Registrar of Companies as a Company limited by guarantee (non profit making) on 19 May 2000 and as a UK Charity in London registered number 1090539

WATER TOWER

Has anyone got any idea of how to move a two ton water tower two blocks away and erect it without putting it through a roof?

We are preparing the second shelter house installing a gravity water system. The tower was made at the Isubilo Centre by a very good local tradesman and now needs to be moved and installed. One thing we are not short of is manpower so here goes. Next update we hope to have pictures of the system in place ■

NEW SCHOOL BAGS

Kriti, a regular helper from Canada, has very kindly sent out enough school bags, donated through her school, for all our school-goers.



Our young people are so grateful to be able to carry their school equipment in style.

Thanks to all involved ■

A NURSE?

Stephanie is no longer with us and has moved on. Richard, the Clinical Officer, is managing with the help of Mr Lambakasa, the dresser and school leavers at the reception. We would however like to have a replacement nurse. It is felt that we would like to have an expatriate nurse to replace Stephanie. There would be wide ranging involvement from home visitation, leasing with government clinics and other institutions, organising adherence programmes to participating in nutrition classes and underweight babies clinics. Any takers? Please remember that Isubilo is essentially a Christian institution and it

would be administratively much easier if the application was as a missionary nurse and self supported ■

IT TAKES COURAGE

Whiteson was able to attend a four day seminar which encouraged youth leaders to challenge their wards to stand against the crowd in life-style and sexual behaviour. On his return he organised sessions with our youth to share what he had learnt. The discussions and questions indicated that this was a much needed subject to be tackled. This will be an ongoing dialogue as local life-styles and habits are dealt with ■

SILENT VOICES

Another seminar which has been brought to the youth at Isubilo by Isabel, sought to stimulate thought on the issue of abortion. With promiscuity rife, many young girls and older ones too are resorting to abortion to solve their 'problem'. The challenge was equally brought to the young men to bear responsibility and realise what pains are brought about by thoughtless actions. The subject which was dealt with very sensitively and in some depth has caused much heart searching among our young people ■

A STORY

We received a phone call from a 27 year old young man driving a coach between Zambia and Zimbabwe. He phoned to thank carers at Isubilo for saving his life. It was only when he mentioned his name that disbelief registered on the face of the person on the other end of the phone. Only four months previously, during the course of house visits, this young man was found lying in a chicken coop, chickens roosting on him. He had been abandoned by his family too lazy to look after him and feed him in his dying state dumping him with the chickens. He was taken back to the Isubilo clinic where he was given a

thorough clean up and immediately put on a drip for dehydration. For the first week or so the hospice across town kindly took him in as an in-patient to get him to a level of health which would allow him to start antiretroviral therapy. With regular and attentive care and food administered by the Isubilo adherence team, he made remarkable progress enabling him to return to his job as a coach driver ■



AGRIC

Dry season is a time when vegetables are much easier to grow away from the heavy rains. Watering the plants daily may be a chore but the results are worth it. We have three qualified agriculturalists working with us. Tanga is overall in charge and is responsible for experimental gardens trying out alternatives to commercial fertilizers and chemicals as well as growing medicinal plants. Mbai is in charge of a section of land to produce for use at the Isubilo Centre such as hospital meals and meals for the children, the remainder for sale. Dennis is in charge of helping families and individuals with plots, to make the most of their efforts and be able to leave with skills ■



The Isubilo Newsletter is and sent out via email every few months and if you would like a copy sent to you then email your details to webmaster@isubilo.org

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