



# NEWSLETTER

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## GIFT LIST

The Isubilo website now has a the **GIFT LIST** section up and running. A great way to give gifts to your family & friends see [www.isubilo.org/giftlist.htm](http://www.isubilo.org/giftlist.htm)



## DONATE ON LINE

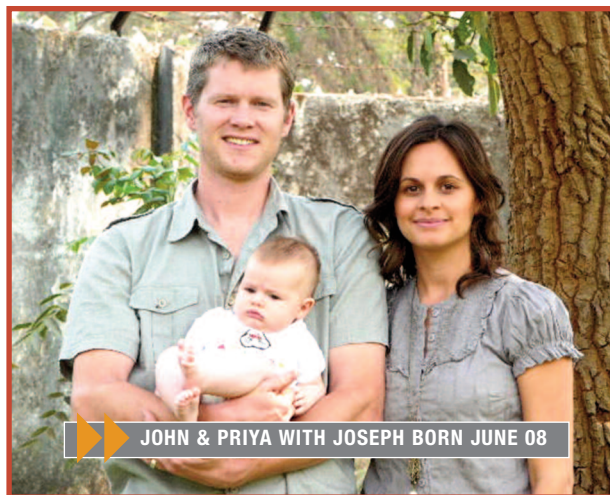
We can now take on-line donating via our website [www.isubilo.org](http://www.isubilo.org)

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

## JOHN & PRIYA LEAVE ISUBILO

The Isubilo team are very sad to say goodbye to John and Priya. For a while they have shared their thoughts on a future change with the leadership of Isubilo, and just before Christmas confirmed their launch into a new venture, still in Zambia, which will be using their considerable skills independently of Isubilo.



JOHN & PRIYA WITH JOSEPH BORN JUNE 08

John pioneered and very successfully established the work among orphans and vulnerable children here at Isubilo. Within a few years it has become a well run department catering for the educational, physical and spiritual needs of over 260 children. John was able to build a competent team of carers who are able to follow up the progress of each child. He returned to England for eighteen months and married Priya who was finishing her degree in nursing and returned with his new bride who also sunk herself in the care of children using her considerable nursing skills to bring a new dimension to their medical follow-up.

When antiretroviral therapy became freely available in Zambia, many people living with HIV/AIDS were given the therapy with little support. A new group of volunteers were trained to provide specific assistance to improve the health and adherence of those on therapy. Priya's specialist knowledge was invaluable in the preparation of the syllabus at

a time when little information was widely available here. John and Priya also provided creative input into the training which proved to be the most successful we have experienced at Isubilo. It is through this training with the assistance a group of professional team builders from Canada that John and Priya discovered their special gifting in communicating leadership principles and team building.

We cannot argue that this important area of training, will benefit many organisations, including ourselves, churches and even companies to encourage teams to work together more effectively to care for needy communities.

We, at Isubilo, look forward to working alongside them in a different capacity from time to time, though we will miss their warm personalities and lively contributions to the life of the centre.

**THANK YOU JOHN & PRIYA FOR ALL YOU INPUT INTO ISUBILO WE WILL MISS YOU BOTH**

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**A STORY**

A 42 year old man was admitted into adherence programme July 2008. He was badly wasted, in a confused state and almost unable to walk. He was not very well looked after, as his wife who was nine months pregnant had given up on him. He was taken to the hospice across town and was discharged when he improved. He was followed up by the Isubilo adherence team to make sure that he was well fed and taking his medication at the right times. In January he suddenly turned up at the office with all his family. With tears in his eyes he said "Without Isubilo I would not have seen the light of 2009" He is back at work welding and providing for his family and is eager to learn more about ART ■

**FOOTBALL TEAM**

Our boys are getting better due to the new stripes help?... I don't know! They are being coached by Whiteson, one of the CYC staff and Mbai one of our agriculturalists. I think at the moment we are loosing as many matches as we are winning...but they look good!



our football team

**SCHOOLING**

Eight of our CY (Children and Youth) have finished secondary school - grade 12 and are waiting for their results. In the usual manner they will only get their results when it is too late to apply for further education or skills courses. A whole year will have to elapse before they are to able to apply during which Isubilo will try to keep them occupied and advise them into the next stage of their lives. They will help in the CYC (Child and Youth Care) department in different capacities as well as spend times with other departments to gain experience of different life disciplines ■



care in the clinic

**CLIENT CARE TEAM**

Representative staff from Home Based Care, Adherence, Children and Youth, and the Clinic departments meet together more regularly to assess the needs of each client, addressing the services that each department is able to provide and coordinating their care. Two CY carers have been trained specifically in adherence of the children and youth on ARVs. Their combined efforts produce the most beneficial results. Richard Kasonde, the clinical officer, is coordinating the team which also assesses when clients should be released from our care as they improve and are able to look after themselves, reducing dependency as much as possible ■

**VISIT OF SPECIALISTS**

We very recently had the visit of a consultant Dr Michael Jones and a nurse Ann Chiswick, with expertise in the field of adherence. It was a great privilege to have the benefit of their experience as they agreed to meet volunteers and staff who are engaged in the care of patients on ART. The meeting took the form of a discussion which allowed our team to ask specific questions related to their experiences and at the same time the visitors to get a feel of the effectiveness of the programme. It was a very instructive time and a great encouragement to all ■



question time

**GUARDIANS MEETING**

Ann Chiswick was particularly pleased that during her short stay she was able to attend a meeting for guardians looking after orphans on ART. Many parents and guardians caring for children on ART are very ignorant as to the reason for therapy and how best to care for the them and help them stick to the regimen. There are terrible stories of witchcraft, even suspecting that blood being taken for CD4 count testing is for satanic rituals. Some believe that the medication makes the patient mad. The turn out was not marvellous though we admired the



very helpful time

ones who came for braving torrential rains. Richard was able to give a short introductory talk before opening to questions which kept flowing for well over an hour. Many misconceptions were cleared up over a hot cup of tea. A fascinating insight for an adherence nurse from Scotland ■

**PRAYER AND FASTING**

This sounds a slightly drastic request, especially from children. We had explained that the finances would struggle to stretch to get every child into school this January. Last Saturday was designated for prayer without a lunch for those who so chose. It was wonderful to see the commitment of a good number of the children who took this time seriously....and incidently are all in school now! ■

