

Kaloko News



HELPING RURAL ZAMBIAN COMMUNITIES TO HELP THEMSELVES

Summer 2010

A NEW ENERGY

The recent arrival of mains electricity at Luansobe has had a tangible and wide-reaching impact on the local population.

Delighted at the potential offered by a reliable power supply, the community has been quick to take advantage of the facility. With dusk falling early in Zambia, the provision of lighting has made a great difference in the workplace and in homes. But electricity has also given a boost to the economy. Shop-owners in the market have installed fridges and freezers, selling fresh fish and meat as well as cold drinks, while another enterprising resident has established a small welding shop and provides a much-



needed local service by charging batteries. A recent highlight for the broader community has been the football World Cup in South Africa when Luansobe shared in the excitement of the FIFA championship in July, watching it live on television for the first time.

The mains power supply to Luansobe was commissioned in March this year, on completion of the government-funded infrastructure project which began in late 2008. To date, over 25 buildings at the site have been connected, including two LUBS classroom blocks, most teachers' houses, the Rural Health Clinic, Kaloko's offices, some staff housing, guest accommodation and several market stalls.

BIKES 2010!

Luansobe residents are jubilant at the news that the second container of reconditioned bicycles from the UK has now arrived in Zambia. The 349 bikes were sourced by the UK charity Re~Cycle, and transport costs were funded by the proceeds from the sale of bikes sent last year.

The 2010 shipment has been eagerly anticipated. With poor roads and inadequate bus services, bicycles give Zambia's rural communities crucial access to affordable transport. Wherever you go in the area, you will see bicycles. Bikes take the sick to clinics and children to

schools; bikes ferry goods to and from market; they move unwieldy equipment, jerry cans of clean water; bags of maize; bundles of firewood and sacks of dried beans; bikes carry people to church and relatives to visit families. They are essential to ordinary rural life.

As in 2009, this year's consignment will be sold locally at a very modest price. Luansobe residents say that, despite being second-hand, the bikes are more robust and better suited to local conditions than new bikes being sold in nearby towns. Their popularity – and affordability – is clear; of the 411 bicycles of varying sizes sent out in 2009, only three children's scooters remain in stock.



Ex Royal Mail bicycles have new uses (left), bicycles carrying maize (right), and a newly-carved maize-grinding mortar (above).



HELPING HAND REACHES FURTHER



Orphaned children with uniforms & shoes provided through Kaloko's Grandmother Sponsorship

Kaloko's Granny Scheme is expanding to ensure that more grandmothers receive assistance to care for orphaned grandchildren. Help will now extend to include a total of eight local households with grandmothers at their head.

Four grandmothers, sole carers of their 11 orphaned grandchildren, are currently receiving assistance from Kaloko in the form of school uniforms and shoes, books and pencils. They will shortly also be given seed and fertiliser to help them grow crops in the coming rainy season. The scheme has attracted generous sponsorship in the UK and, with increased funding, can now extend to four more families in the same position of hardship.

WILL YOU JOIN THE GRANNY SPONSORSHIP SCHEME?

£10 a month means the world to these grandmothers, helping them to feed, clothe and educate the children left in their care.

The buzz continues..

The Luansobe Beekeepers Cooperative (LBCS) was the proud recipient of a formal certificate awarded for its stand at this year's Agricultural Show in Ndola. Taking the stand to find new markets and advertise locally-produced honey, the Coop has also rented two stall sites on the main Kabwe-Ndola road to sell the two tonnes of honey produced by its 202 members this season.

Despite the end of the three-year Beekeeping Project funded by the innocent foundation, the Cooperative is determined to continue. The project, which ran for three and half years, trained and equipped 150 new beekeepers. Now, with an established network of leader farmers who are able to give advice and technical assistance, LBCS is considering ways in which training to new beekeepers could be continued.

WATER IS LIFE

Kantolo dam, the fifth dam in the area built by Kaloko, has filled and is now flowing over the spillway. With the dry season well underway, the new dam has not only raised water tables in local wells, it is also providing water for livestock and allowing villagers to grow vegetables on small hand-irrigated plots around the dam.

Local leader Chieftainess Malembeka has declared that land within 50 metres of the high water line of any new dam would be available for public use, and Kantolo's dam management committee is currently allocating vegetable garden plots beside the dam to villagers from the surrounding area.



KWESHA KEEPS ON GROWING

With the rainy season in Zambia over, two important construction projects in Kwesha village have begun in earnest.

At Kwesha Community School, building work has started on two new teachers' houses to accommodate the two government-paid teachers who were appointed by the local Department of Education at the start of the academic year. Work on the houses should be completed by October. The school, which has now extended its teaching to Grade 8, has seen rapid expansion of the facilities for its 340 pupils. Since 2007, four new classrooms, as well as offices and store-rooms, have been built with the help of Kaloko and the charity Caritas. Nevertheless, the achievement at Kwesha is, in large part, due to the determination of the community which has provided much of the labour and materials needed.

Kwesha, together with Luanpesa village, is also soon to gain a new Health Outpost as part of a drive by Kaloko to make healthcare more accessible to villagers in remoter areas. Construction has begun on the two buildings which, although basic, will each have a consultation room, waiting room and storeroom. The outposts will allow Rural Health Centre staff to hold regular clinics for local residents. When not in use by medical staff, the buildings can be used for adult training and community meetings or as additional classrooms for nearby schools.

Tapping Talent

Around the remote villages of Luansobe, the bush is humming with a new sound - the rap music of a small band of youngsters with great ambition. Mark D, Super G and the Cheza Boys, all aged 15, sing their hearts out wherever they find themselves. Their raw



natural talent, and strong lyrics which reflect the issues facing local villagers, have attracted the support of visiting Finnish volunteers who have helped the group film a series of music videos in their local setting. With stars in their eyes, the lads plan to send the demo film to a local TV station in Lusaka.

The Finnish volunteers also helped to film another group of talented youngsters who perform educational comedy sketches to spread the message about the risks of HIV/AIDS and illegal drug use as well as the need to protect the environment. The group is now looking to raise £300 to edit the films and get them aired on television and in local schools.

If you are able to support this surge of local talent and creativity, Kaloko would love to hear from you.

Grit and Hard Work

Striding forward with plans for the growing community school at Kandulwe, the Parent Teachers' Association (PTA) has started building two new classrooms. With rising enrolment figures, the school urgently needs more facilities for its 238 pupils. Despite the addition of a new two-room block completed by Kaloko a year and half ago, the nearby health outpost is being used as extra space for the seven classes and some lessons still take place in the open.

The PTA has risen to the challenge. With their own money, and collecting stone and sand themselves, parents have already completed the foundations and aim to continue the project using locally-made clay bricks. Nevertheless, Kandulwe will need some assistance to complete the block and Kaloko,



keen to support the community's determined effort, will soon make an appeal for the £5,000 needed for roofing, windows, doors and paint.

Safe Source

Children at the Crèche now have access to a supply of safe water thanks to a new borehole and hand-pump which was funded by the Standard Chartered Bank of Zambia. The borehole, sited near the Crèche and the Luansobe Beekeepers Cooperative, also serves local residents who pay a small user fee, the equivalent of 70 pence a month, to ensure that the pump can be properly maintained and serviced.

The new borehole is part of a wider scheme to extend access to clean water. Kaloko hopes to drill and equip a further four boreholes this year in more remote villages, with funding from various donors including the A&N Ferguson Trust and the Evan Cornish Foundation. In addition, the Finnish Government, working through the Zambia Sanitation Project, is to finance another seven boreholes in the area. Meanwhile, water management committees are being formed and trained, and user fees are being collected in the villages.

A local mother fills jerry cans with clean water for her family at the new borehole near the Crèche and Beekeepers Coop.



**PLEASE SUPPORT US THIS CHRISTMAS,
SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT WHAT WE DO
AND HELP US FIND NEW SUPPORT
MAKE IT A KALOKO CHRISTMAS!**

Kaloko's delightful Christmas card this year was designed exclusively for us by supporter and art teacher Rob Rutterford. Our great thanks go to him.



Cards are available from Kaloko UK at the address overleaf - £3.50 for a pack of 10 (plus postage).

UK postage costs: £1.11 for 1-2 packs; £1.59 for 3-4 packs; £2.84 for 5-10 packs.

Please send cheques made payable to the Kaloko Trust, stating your address and the quantity required.

Big Society

The Kaloko guest accommodation has been well used over recent months, hosting volunteers of all ages from a variety of backgrounds.

Amy Fox, an experienced accountant from London, spent three weeks during March at Kaloko training personnel there to use financial reporting templates. Social and economic development has been the focus of another volunteer, 25 year old Holger Vogt of Germany. Holger, who will shortly be entering his final year of a BSc honours degree in International Development at the University of East Anglia, is carrying out a review of past projects at Luansobe, assessing their impact and sustainability. In his final report, which should be completed in September, he will also examine current community and local economic needs which Kaloko may wish to consider in future projects.

Meanwhile, five Finnish students have spent two months at Kaloko assisting with the Dry Toilet Project, assessing their use by the community and investigating possible changes to make the latrines more suitable to local conditions. For the second year running, a small group of students from Varndean College in Brighton visited Kaloko as part of their A-level World

Development course. The students, who were accompanied by their teacher and former Kaloko volunteer Emma Iavarone and three other adults, built a second toilet block for Kandulwe Community School as well as making school furniture.

Later in the year, Kaloko looks forward to welcoming another accountant, seconded by UK charity Accountants for International Development, who is to help Kaloko update their financial procedures and policies. In education, Sharon McDowall is taking a four-month break from her job in Paisley to teach English and Science at Luansobe Upper Basic School for the final term of 2010.

International volunteers Mia Lepaus (Finland), Holger Vogt (Germany), Pui Ki Tsang (Hong Kong) and Santtu Palokangas (Finland) preparing their meal outside the Kaloko guest kitchen.



Fundraising Flurry

Along the length of Britain, there has been a recent surge in fundraising activity in aid of Kaloko Trust. Two young London supporters, Danny and Rosa Dobson, asked friends at their sixth birthday party in July to donate to Kaloko rather than give presents, bringing in a generous £134. In Manchester, Professor George and Mrs Rosemarie Wedell raised over £300 hosting a musical evening at which their son Crispin and two fellow musicians gave a concert.

Further north still, Scottish volunteer Sharon McDowall threw herself into a series of activities before her departure for Luansobe, holding three car boot sales, a coffee morning and a fundraising day at *Bar 1901* where her mother works. The patrons of the small bar

in Renfrew backed Sharon's campaign enthusiastically, playing pool, dominoes and darts, singing karaoke and joining in the raffle and World Cup sweepstake. Sharon raised a magnificent £800.

**INSPIRED TO ARRANGE YOUR OWN KALOKO EVENT?
GET IN TOUCH! WE'RE HAPPY TO HELP WITH ADVICE,
SUGGESTIONS AND PUBLICITY MATERIAL.**

Our printer

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The Kaloko Trust UK works to relieve poverty and raise livelihoods in rural communities in Zambia, southern Africa. Promoting local development of agriculture and self-help projects to generate income, it encourages the sustainable and responsible use of natural resources. The Trust promotes education and healthcare through improved access to schools, clinics and clean water.

Established in 1995 as a registered charity (No. 1047622), The Kaloko Trust UK (KTUK) supports the activities of our partner organisation, Kaloko Trust Zambia (KTZ) by securing funds for KTZ programmes and providing management support and capacity building. It also offers technical assistance, recruits specialist volunteers and publicises KTZ's activities. In 2009, 92% of funds raised were spent on charitable activities with the rest used for governance and generating further funds.



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