

Kaloko News



HELPING RURAL ZAMBIAN COMMUNITIES TO HELP THEMSELVES

Spring 2007

Schools Strengthened Under Improved Sponsorship Scheme

The 1000+ children who are educated under Kaloko's Sponsorship Scheme are all extremely happy with the new administration of the scheme (switching from individual to class sponsorship), which has started off very successfully.

We would like to sincerely thank all those of you who sponsor schools for your continued support of education in rural Zambia. Apart from your regular giving many of you have already sent letters, cards and gifts to classes at Luansobe Upper Basic School (LUBS) and at Kandulwe Community School. The letters and cards are on display up on the classroom noticeboards, and gifts are being used within the class environment for the benefit of everyone. The children were very pleased to have received presents to share over Christmas—we are already seeing some jigsaw-making champions and some card sharks emerging! They are extremely grateful for your generosity, and some of you will no doubt be receiving samples



Children at Luansobe Upper Basic School with some of the gifts they have received from sponsors

of what they have done with all the art materials they were given!



The new headmaster Hanyama Hakanyama supervising the construction of the new classroom block

The new headmaster at LUBS – Mr Hanyama Hakanyama— is very enthusiastic about sponsorship, and is keen that all his teachers and pupils get involved in writing to sponsors. We hope you are enjoying hearing from the classes.

If you are not already a sponsor but would like to be, please contact our UK office. We have plenty more children who need help with their education.

Increased Food Security for HIV/AIDS Sufferers

This year Kaloko expects to help almost 500 people under a special Food Security programme for families affected by HIV/AIDS. Expanding on last year's pilot programme, in 2007 Kaloko is working with four HIV/AIDS groups to support food production. In Luampesa the Magodi Church and the Apostolic Church have selected the beneficiaries; in Mwaitwa we are working with the long-established Women & AIDS club, and Kaloko is also working with the Rural Health Centre to support another group, Openly Positive, which comprises 23 people who are open about their HIV status and in need of assistance with food production.

Ten people from each of the groups have formed committees to work with Kaloko Trust on the programme. A total of 250kg of maize seed has been distributed for growth, together with bean seed and fertilisers. Kaloko's Agricultural Officer is providing extension support to each group, ensuring the crops are progressing well and that there are no difficulties. The seeds and fertilisers have been given on an interest-free loan basis – at harvest time they will return enough maize for Kaloko to sell in order to provide seeds and fertilisers again the following year, the rest of the maize will be kept by the beneficiaries and their families.

Are You Being Served?



Unloading sacks of maize bran for sale to the community at Kaloko's newly renovated shop

With the aim of providing a unique service to our community members, Kaloko Trust Zambia's shop has been given a new lease of life, helped out by UK volunteer Tim Scott. Following extensive community surveys and consultations it has been decided that the shop will mainly focus on stocking agricultural and building supplies for local people.

The stalls at the small market near Kaloko Trust Zambia already provide household goods such as soap, sugar, oil, flour etc., so Kaloko wanted to move away from this and use their shop to supply goods which the community wants, but finds difficult to obtain, mostly because of transport issues.

Items in store are likely to include: seeds, fertilisers, maize meal, agricultural chemicals, farm implements, bicycle parts, cement, roofing sheets, timber and so on.

The building itself has been completely renovated, with secure storage space cleared inside. A solar powered fridge has been installed to provide cool refreshments to customers and seats have been placed outside for community members to gather. Drop in for a chilled Coca-Cola sometime!

Donors swarm to support successful LBCS

The Luansobe Beekeeping Co-operative Society has certainly hit the ground running this year. With membership currently over 80 (from an initial group of 28) and rising daily, the Co-op is gathering strength at a very healthy pace. Already over 90 more beekeepers in the local community have expressed an interest in signing up to the Co-op, as a result of a sensitisation programme which the Co-op undertook in December 2006.

The LBCS has high expectations for 2007 and beyond, in light of a very large grant which they recently received from The Innocent Foundation through Kaloko Trust. The Innocent Foundation have agreed to fund the Co-operative



Trainee Lizzy Kana of Kwesha Community is shown how to bait the top bars of a hive

over three years and their grant will support the following: training beekeepers, supplying loan funds, purchasing equipment, providing transport and building offices and storage.

The success of the LBCS at mobilising the community has also attracted attention from the Zambian Government's Department of Forestry, who recently donated 100 sets of beekeeping equipment to the Co-op. This equipment will be given out on loan terms to fully paid-up members whose applications are successful.

Beekeeping Training is still being undertaken by Kaloko Trust and we are thankful to those sponsors who continue to give money under the Beekeeping Sponsorship Scheme. Training sessions are scheduled this year to take place in April and September, with 25 people in each group; targeted villages are Kasamwa and Chisapa.

As part of their capacity building for the Co-op Kaloko Trust is also phasing out their extension work for graduate beekeepers and instead they are training some of the LBCS members to act as extension officers, so that they can take over this role and fully support the members.



Trainee Angel Kulu from Lwiimba with his new equipment, all set to keep bees!

A Net a Day Keeps the Mozzies Away

BEDNETS PROJECT, AMBULANCE UPDATE

Kaloko Trust has further strengthened a successful partnership with the Zambian Government's Ministry of Health, in its bid to reduce the incidence of malaria amongst the 10,000 people in the catchment area of the Rural Health Centre.

In June 2006 Kaloko received a donation from the Goresbridge Bridge Club in Ireland, which was used to set up a revolving fund in order to purchase mosquito nets. Kaloko's ability to buy in bulk using the fund meant that nets were obtained at a very reasonable price, and so community members were able to afford them. The initial



Ladies at an ante-natal group being shown by RHC staff how to use mosquito nets

200 nets sold like the proverbial hot cakes, and two more sets of 200 nets were purchased. On hearing of the

success of the programme the Ministry of Health decided that they would step in to support the Kaloko Rural Health Centre in its endeavours. The MoH supplied 1,000 nets to the RHC for free, and all 1,000 nets were sold to the community in record time. The MoH has committed to continuing to supply mosquito nets for free to the Centre; the fact that the Centre staff are able to deliver the nets to isolated communities, when they undertake outreach work in the ambulance donated by Kaloko, was a major factor influencing the decision. The original revolving fund for the mosquito nets will now be used instead for a long-term investment—to purchase much-needed equipment for the Health Centre.

The Ministry of Health continues to provide fuel to the medical team, and just recently they have appointed an official MoH driver for the ambulance. This is a great step forward as previously Kaloko Trust drivers were seconded to the Health Centre to drive the ambulance. The community – through their Neighbourhood Health Committees – are continuing to contribute what they can for the maintenance fund, although the MoH has indicated that it will soon take over the maintenance of the ambulance as well.

EXPANSION OF OUTREACH WORK

The ambulance and crew will soon be adding another stop to their rounds on their outreach work, as building work is almost complete on the new Community Health Outpost in Kandulwe Village. Already the communal area has been used by several groups to hold meetings, including the LBCS and Kaloko's HIV/AIDS team. Thank you to all those who contributed to this programme, further updates and photographs to come.

Water, water, everywhere, and not a drop to drink!

BOREHOLE Working as we do in an isolated rural area—where help is most needed—is certainly a challenging experience for Kaloko Trust, as experienced most recently in our attempts to have a borehole dug on site in Zambia. Since the final funds for our Borehole Appeal came in in July 2006, we have struggled to find a drilling company who are willing to come out into the bush to dig the borehole. Companies seem to be reluctant to send crews out to rural areas where amenities are not as good as in town, and the fact that we are a small NGO with only one borehole in need of digging also puts them off; they seem to prefer to get big contracts in town. We were let down last year by two companies who promised to come to the site and never showed up; an application for the borehole to be dug by the Ministry of Water also fell on deaf ears. We have now requested yet another company to come to Kaloko Trust Zambia to start work, and we are hopeful that we will have more positive news in the next newsletter.

RAINS As I'm sure many of you are aware from following the international news, this rainy season in Zambia has been in some ways too bountiful, with some farmers around the country suffering from flood damage to crops and homes. There have been reports of bridges being washed away and an increase in drownings, as well as villages being terrorised by hippos and crocodiles who have moved away from their normal habitats. At Luansobe we have been spared any such tragedies and are hopeful that the good rains will provide for a successful harvest.



A full body of water at Serenje RCT

DAMS There has been so much rainfall this season that all of the Rainwater Catchment Tanks we have built are full to the brim, including Chisapa which has had meagre catchments in previous years. The most recently built dam at Serenje has developed a small leak which will have to be repaired once the rainy season is over, but otherwise the communities are pleased with what will now be a year-round water supply for irrigation, kitchen gardens and animal husbandry.

Back Page Snippets

Kaloko Welcomes Consultant

Kaloko Trust has been working in the Luansobe area for over 17 years now, and as with any long-term relationship it is good to take stock every now and again to ensure everything is on track.

We are delighted that Simon Hale, an International Development Consultant with many years' experience, will be visiting Kaloko's projects in Zambia during April.

Simon will be reviewing Kaloko's structures and relationships, both internally and with external stakeholders, and providing a report on how these should be developed to ensure that they are appropriate to local needs and are best suited to deliver sustainable development.

An article on Simon's findings will be included in the next newsletter.

Mobile Phone Appeal



We are being inundated with requests from community members at Luansobe for mobile phones. With family members scattered across such large areas of the country, the community appreciate being able to speak to them by phone; they may go several years without physically meeting their families.

So if you have got an unwanted phone lying about in a drawer, please put it to good use and send it on to us at the Brighton office. The phones should be in working order with a battery and charger. If they are 'unlocked', even better, but it's not necessary.

Call for Volunteers!

Kaloko Trust currently needs volunteers both in the UK office and out in Zambia. In the UK we are looking for someone who can give around a day a week to help out with the Accounts. This would suit someone with basic accounting or book-keeping experience; applicants must be computer-literate, particularly in MS Excel.

In Zambia we are also looking for someone with accounting experience, to support our Zambian staff. We would like someone who can commit to at least 6 months in the field, and applicants should be proficient in MS Excel. This position might suit a newly-qualified accountant who is looking for experience in the Charity Sector, or someone with solid book-keeping/management experience.

Please forward your CV to Clare Rutherford in the UK office if you are interested.



Kaloko's newly-developed volunteer accommodation in Zambia

THE KALOKO TRUST

Kaloko Trust UK (KTUK) was established in 1995 as a registered charity (No. 1047622). Our objectives are to promote sustainable rural development in Africa. We do this through supporting the activities of our partner organisation, Kaloko Trust Zambia (KTZ). KTZ works with local villagers in rural Zambia to relieve poverty and raise livelihoods. They help develop local agriculture and income generation, and promote the environmentally sustainable use of natural resources. The Trust works to advance education and promote healthcare through the support of a training centre, schools and health clinics. KTUK secures funds for programmes run by KTZ; provides management support and capacity building; gives technical assistance including the procurement and shipping of equipment; recruits volunteers to provide specialist skills; and publicises Kaloko Trust Zambia's activities.



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