



September 2016

Dear BREAD Supporters

I have to start this Newsletter with an apology! It was first written in January of this year but events overtook us and, for a number of reasons, it was not published. It means that you have not been properly kept informed of how things are going in Berega and how your money is being spent.

This was not our intention and I am really sorry for the delay. This report now covers the period from January 2015 to date. It is in three parts:

- *The current situation in the village and in the various Diocesan organizations within it;*
- *What BREAD have been doing to help;*
- *Trustee news, contact details and several opportunities to join in.*

Yours sincerely, Mike Mytton (Secretary and Treasurer)

The current situation in Berega

Over time the village economy is growing. There is a bus to Morogoro leaving every morning (at 05:30!) and returning in the evening. This means that access to markets is much better than it was. There is also electricity in some houses and in the main Diocesan buildings. It only works for about half the time so is not yet very useful, but this will improve, we hope. A big downside that has occurred is that the American charity Hands4Africa has been wound up. It used to employ around 40 people on a plantation growing berries for bio-fuel, and this has now stopped. It also supported a primary school by finding sponsors for children's fees and by providing volunteer teachers in English and

other subjects. As you can imagine this has caused some difficulties for the Diocese.



1 Bishop Chitemo Primary School

The other big problem has been that the Government is still not paying the salaries of all the doctors and nurses that they are contracted to do. This means that the hospital is continually struggling to keep going.

As you will see, not all is doom and gloom but it has certainly been a difficult time for the managers of the different organizations in the village, and this remains the case.

Despite the difficulties, the **hospital** continues to operate and to provide good health care for those using it. There was a cholera outbreak in November last year and this was an exceptionally busy time. It has now been contained.

BREAD has worked with the management team on ways to make the hospital better able to control its purchases and storage of drugs. New systems are now in place and this should reduce costs and ensure a constant supply of medicines.

Rev. Isaac Mgego remains the hospital director – and has recently been made a Canon. He and the Bishop are in constant contact with the Government and are still hoping for some resolution of the problems of staff salaries.

The **School of Nursing** is doing well. Last year, it had over 100 students (its capacity) and continues to train new nurses and health care workers. This is really important in a country like Tanzania where there is a great shortage of qualified medical staff. Furthermore, the

numbers of students are such, that the School now makes a small annual profit!

It demonstrates a model which gives us some encouragement when things are tough! BREAD and others have contributed to the buildings and equipment of the School, and it was started up by expats: John and Mair Pugh. Now it is run entirely by local people and is self sustaining – at least in terms of day-to-day operations. The head of the school is Wilbard Mrase who is doing an excellent job.

When the summer work parties take place, they stay in the dormitories belonging to the **Lay Training Centre**. This means that over the years, we have got to know Canon Chihumba very well. Until last summer he was the leader of the Centre but has now retired. He is building a house for himself in the village. The new person in charge is a lady called Pasis Maira and she is already developing new courses. The Centre runs courses for lay men and women who are sent by their local churches within the Diocese.

The **orphanage** is still going strong and has a full complement of around 20-25 young children and babies. Its mission is to look after these children who have lost one or both parents. Most of them return to their wider families when they are old enough. Ute Klatt has been in Germany for much of the past year but is returning soon to continue the management of the orphanage. She herself has four children (they are quads) who she has adopted.

Bishop Chitemo Primary School has around 120 pupils ranging from pre-school children to Grade 5 students. As time goes on it will have students up to Grade 7 – the last year of primary education in Tanzania.

Hands4Africa had ambitious plans for the school and these included a building project to create new classrooms and eventually a school with around 300 pupils (i.e. two streams of 7 grades). These plans will now be scaled back but the school still aims to provide:

- A good education, taught in English, for those children whose parents can afford to pay;
- and at the same time, via sponsorship, an opportunity for local children to have the same.

About 20% of the fees come from sponsorship. As you will see below, BREAD and others have been working to try to help the school continue to function.

BREAD and its support to the village

A work party went to Berega in August 2015. This has happened several times before but this is the first year that the trip was organized by BREAD. There were people from three different UK churches: New Life Church in Congleton, Merland Rise Church in Surrey, and St Phillip's Church in Margate. There were around 20 of us and the age range was from 16 to 70!



2 All dressed up and ready for church!

The main jobs undertaken were the building of a classroom for the School of Nursing, the installation of 8 rain water harvesting systems, and the decorating of an administration / tutorial block, again for the nursing school. We had intended to also build a classroom for the primary school but the necessary materials were not available. Nevertheless, the team raised sufficient money for this to be completed later – and it has now been built.

It was a great time: we got on well together, learnt a lot about life in rural Africa, and made some good new connections within the village. You won't find it on Trip Advisor, but most participants gave the trip a five star rating!



3 The classroom for the School of Nursing



4 Two Congleton ladies roll out another rain water tank!

Between them the members of the work party raised around £38,000 for these projects. Of this money, £7,000 covered their food and transport costs within Tanzania, £25,000 was spent on materials for the projects, and £6,000 was left in BREAD's funds.

BREAD projects

Because the funds collected by the work party went through BREAD's accounts, our overall income this year was much higher than usual¹. Our own spending during the financial year 2014-15 was as shown in the table below.

¹ Our accounts for the financial year ending September 30th 2015 are available at the Charity Commission website.

BREAD projects in Berega 2014-15

Land cruiser (a)	£25,600
Building the admin / tutorial building at the School of Nursing (b)	£9,000
Conversion of an unfinished building into a dormitory for the primary school (c)	£5,600
Emergency grant for buying drugs	£3,200
Refurbishment of the kitchen in the lay training centre	£1,350
Purchase of a reconditioned centrifuge for the lab	£700
Additional work on the shops built last year	£475

(a) We were helped to buy the land cruiser by a legacy left to the Mission Crosslinks, the mission that employed Noj and Mary in Berega. Also by a grant from the American charity "Unite for Africa".

(b) Some of this was paid for by money collected at the funeral of Denise Ings, the wife of the Bishop of Worcester.

(c) This was paid for by a single donor who had recently been in Berega.

The purchase of the new (second hand!) land cruiser was our biggest item of expenditure. It allows the hospital to carry out its work in the surrounding villages. The previous one was very old and had travelled over 200,000 miles! It kept breaking down and was expensive to maintain.



5 Isaac and Godson, the hospital accountant, welcome the new vehicle

The new one was imported from Japan and cost much more than we originally budgeted for because it proved almost impossible to sell the old one which is now used in and around Morogoro by the Diocese.

Much of this money came from a special appeal and the rest was provided for by the general fund.

We also spent money on a new building for the School of Nursing and for drugs purchases at the hospital.



6 The new Admin / Tutorial block at the School of Nursing

Our financial year begins in October and ends in September. During this year (i.e. 2015-16) we have:

- made a further contribution for the supply of medicine to help the new cost control system and drug replacement fund to start up.
- built another classroom for the primary school, and provided “emergency money” to tide the school over until a new sponsorship scheme is in place;
- and made small donations for a new lounge / canteen in the hospital and to provide lap tops and a projector for the lay training centre.

By the end of this year, we also hope to have built a 60,000 litre rainwater storage tank for the School of Nursing.

We obviously couldn't do any of these projects without you – so we are very grateful for the support we receive!

Trustees News

We are pleased to welcome two new Trustees:

Peter Leighton is currently a student at Oxford doing a masters degree in Development Economics. He went to Berega as a teenager and has retained his interest in the village since then. We are hoping he will provide additional expertise in future. He will certainly bring down the average age of the Trustees!

Jo Speed has also agreed to become a Trustee. She is the CEO of a bereavement charity based in Stoke and came on the summer work party last year. As an accountant, she was exceptionally useful in working on the pharmacy accounts and controls.

During 2015, David and Anne Curnock spent two months working in the hospital in the maternity ward. David's particular interest is in premature babies and Anne's is in teaching and working with students at the Lay Training Centre. They are there again now – as you read this Newsletter!

Gary and Mike visited for five weeks in July/August 2015 in connection with the Work Party visit. Mike went again in May 2016 to understand the financial situation at the hospital and the primary school.

Noj and Mary are now back working in the UK and Noj was able to attend his first Trustees meeting for many years, which was a real boost for us!

The full list of Trustees is now as follows:

- Gary Mann, Chairman
- David Curnock
- Noj Northway
- Paul Meredith
- Peter Leighton
- Joanne Speed
- Mike Mytton, Treasurer and Secretary

“Go, pray and give”

Another work party in 2017

At the moment, we are planning another work party for the summer of 2017. This seems a long way ahead but in general, we find that groups need some time to raise their money and get ready.

If any church group or individual is thinking of joining us for that time, do let us know.

It's a great opportunity for people to see a bit of Africa, for team building, and to contribute to village life. We would be happy to come and talk to you about what is involved.

Sponsoring children at the Primary School

Helen Deegan, a retired school head teacher is aiming to raise sponsorship for the children at the Primary School. This will take over from some of the sponsors who have been lost from America.

Helen is a trustee of a sister charity to us – Mission Morogoro - based in the Diocese of Worcester and concentrating on helping at the clinic in Tunguli.

If you would like to support a child at the school, you will find the details at:

<http://helendeego.wixsite.com/sponsorbcps>

Be a volunteer teacher at the primary school

The school needs 2-3 volunteers each year to teach English and possibly other subjects. This might suit a newly retired teacher or someone just starting. It would be for a year at a time.

It's a big commitment but if you are interested in this, or know someone who might be, do contact us and we can talk further.

Giving

If you want to start a standing order to help this work, or make a one-off donation, our bank details are:

Account name: BREAD
Account no: 00151785
Sort code: 20 24 00

Please pray for:

> Isaac (hospital), Wilbard (SONAB), Pasis (LTC), Ute (orphanage), Ruth (primary school). All these jobs are challenging in the present environment.

> The Department of Health and its dealings with all church hospitals – that they are fair and honest with the money they have.

> Bishop Godfrey as he tries to manage the Diocese and make difficult decisions.

Contacts

The following email address goes to both Gary (Chairman) and Mike (Secretary / Treasurer):

contact@bread-trust.org.uk

If you want to write to Mike, then his address is:

86 Merland Rise
Tadworth
KT20 5JD

Email: mikemytton1947@gmail.com

Remember our web site has all sorts of interesting stuff on it, including some videos of the village. You can find it at:

<http://www.bread-trust.org.uk/>

Thank you again for helping this small charity to make a big difference to the village of Berega.