



Chibobo News from Mike Lampard

The container has arrived.

At the end of 2009 the Mechanics for Serenje & Chibobo group, formed to set up a mechanics workshop & train mechanics for the Chibobo and Serenje communities, joined forces with Bicycles for Humanity (B4H). B4H organizes for containers of used pushbikes to be shipped to developing countries around the world to help with the provision of basic transportation needs.

In the early months of 2010 bicycles were gathered, including a bike muster at Overnewton in February this year. The large container finally left for Africa in May, complete with nearly 400 bicycles, playground equipment, clothing, fabrics & haberdashery materials, 2 hand operated sewing machines, mechanical equipment plus a gantry system for unloading the container from the truck at Chibobo—something that required a lot of ingenious thinking from our team. The container arrived in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, before

a relatively hassle free trip to Zambia. The container was unloaded at Chibobo on September 1st. In late September a group from Australia is heading to Chibobo to convert the container into a bicycle workshop and organize how the bikes will be distributed to the community. Through a grant from Ausaid, a number of locals from the Chibobo community will be trained over 6 weeks in bicycle maintenance and how to run a small business.

This project is an exciting way forward for the Chibobo community.



Preparing the site for the container

HMP now has a new website:

There is now a new way to find out about what is happening at Chibobo and Help Ministries Project. Thanks to a lot of work from Erran Caddaye, the new HMP website is up & running. The address is www.chibobohmp.org It contains a lot of interesting information and we hope that it will be updated regularly to keep you informed of the latest news.

Koala Club a success story.

The Koala Club, a group of carers & local ladies (& some men) from the Chibobo area who are learning sewing & craft skills, continues to grow and help the locals become more self sufficient. Whilst I was visiting in June the

Koala Club won 1st prize for best display at the local show, and followed this up with a similar win in the district show at Serenje. This was a cause for great pride & celebration. The club has sewn uniforms for the orphans and



raises funds through the sale of clothing locally + selling bags, placemats & knitted goods in Australia. The ladies are productive and contributing to the local economy.

Latest news from Mike Lampard's 2010 visit.

September 2010.

Special points of interest:

- ☺ New Chibobo website: www.chibobohmp.org
- ☺ A group from St. Mary's visited Chibobo in June/ July 2010, and another group is visiting in October to help set up the bicycle workshop
- ☺ The tomato project is going well & generating income.
- ☺ Night School brings new skills to the community

Inside this issue:

The container has arrived	1
HMP website details	1
Koala Club news	1
Tomato Project	2
Night school	2
Hope for orphans in the community	3
St. Mary's Chibobo visit	4

Tomato project creates a new source of income

As HMP works towards becoming more self sufficient, Director Staivous Mulumba has put his agricultural knowledge into practice to start a new income generating project—the growing of tomatoes. This is occurring on land owned by his parents at Mkushi, about an hour from Chibobo. Overseen by HMP worker Morgan, the 1st crop has been very successful. During my recent visit I was able to see 1st hand how the project was being managed. Furrows allow for irrigation of the crop, and land has been prepared for the 2nd crop to be planted.

Tomatoes were chosen as a crop be-

cause they have a quick turn around time compared to maize and there is demand in the marketplace. Due to colder than normal weather this year many local crops have struggled, leading to an increased price per box. The variety planted by Staivous has stood up well to the cooler weather, and the price has risen from 40,000 kwacha (approx \$10) per box to 100,000 (\$25).

It is hoped that future crops will enable HMP to be more self sufficient.



Staivous with the 1st tomato crop at Mkushi.

Night School at Chibobo helps with adult numeracy & literacy.

In 2010 Overnewton has funded a Night School at Chibobo. This was identified as a major need by HMP during our 2008 visit. Staivous spoke passionately about the need for the local adults to gain skills in literacy and numeracy so that they could sign forms, access basic government services and grants and have the hope of a brighter future.

The school commenced in February this year and now over 100 locals attend 3 times per week. Demand has been so great that a 3rd

teacher was needed. The Night School teaches skills in English (reading and writing), Bemba and Mathematics. Those attending are also starting to make use of the resources in the HMP library.

Staivous reflected how the night school is very much appreciated by the community, and he thanks us for our support. He can already see the skills being put to good use. By having basic mathematic skills Staivous told how local farmers will be able to work out how many bags of maize

from their crop they need to keep to feed their family, how many bags can be sold for an income and how many bags can be put aside for the other things that the family may need over a year. Practical skills making a real difference.

Over 100 adults from the Chibobo community are now learning to read & write thanks to the Night School at HMP.

Some sad news....

After returning from Chibobo in July we learned of the death of one of the orphans, Cornelius. Sickness continues to be a major issue in the Chibobo community, and the medical clinic (soon to be officially opened) offers new hope. During my visit quite a few locals were sick with



Cornelius Mwansa in 2009.

coughing and bad colds. Malaria continues to be an issue, especially in the wider community.

The orphan carers keep a close watch on their charges and organize for medical treatment in Serenje when needed. Cornelius had returned home to his guardians and fell

ill. However, Staivous and the carers were not notified and he unfortunately died.

We take access to reasonable medical care for granted. The people of the Chibobo community aren't so lucky.

Orphans & Vulnerable Children at Chibobo.

One of the privileges that I had during my visit to Chibobo was to visit the guardians of a number of the orphans who are at HMP. It was a very humbling experience—these families who have nothing were very generous with their time and we often left with gifts of eggs and beans.

The visits taught me a lot, including:

- Without exception the guardians were very happy with the care that was being given to the orphans at HMP. The orphans are now receiving an education, regular meals and clothing, something that their guardians struggle to do.

- Many of the families endure incredible hardship just to survive, yet are positive in their outlook and faith. Many are only able to grow a small amount of food, and often go for months without enough food (usually from December to March, the wet season). Piece work sometimes provides a little food.

One of the touching stories came from Brian's grandmother. Brian & Prudence are double orphans (both parents have died) and they live with their grandparents. The grandmother also looks after Brian's 2 younger siblings, but they are unable to go to school because they cannot

provide them with uniforms, food, pens & soap for bathing. This had a huge impact on me, as I wonder how we can help those who are not able to be housed at the HMP orphanage.

In the Chibobo area there are 250 orphans not at the orphanage. Of these 140 are not at school because they cannot afford the basics needed to go to school.

But there is hope.... See below.



Brian's family—his grandmother, sister Prudence and

Hope for the orphans in the Community.

I am always in awe of how people can use their skills and talents to help others. On hearing about the need for uniforms to clothe the orphans in the community so that they can go to school, a group of staff from Overnewton College have banded together to form our own version of the Koala Club. They have offered to make uniforms for the orphans in the community and arrange for them

to be sent to Chibobo on a regular basis.

At the time of writing this I am still waiting for information from Chibobo as to how much it costs to send a child to school for a year (the provision of food for lunch & pens/books to learn with). It is hoped that we can gain sponsorship so, that for each uniform that is made, we can provide the extra funds needed

to get the child to school.

What an amazing gift—to offer the hope of an education to those who have nothing.

The provision of a simple school uniform + funds for a meal & books may enable a child to have hope for the future.



Chibobo Prayer Points.



The Chibobo community value our prayers and support.

Some of the areas that you may wish to consider for prayer:

- Pray for Staivous Mulumba as he leads the community. He has recently suffered a bout of pneumonia. Please pray for his health and wisdom in leadership.
- The Bicycle Workshop project — for the visit by the team from Australia as they convert the container into a workshop, and

for the training of locals to run the bicycle workshop.

- Good yields from the local crops, especially the tomato project.
- The leadership of HMP—a lot of work is expected from a few people, especially Staivous. Pray for wisdom, good time management and the ability to complete the tasks they undertake.
- The leadership of the local churches—that they can make good use of the skills and wisdom

taught to them during the recent ministry training.

- The Koala Club (& the Australian chapter) - give thanks for the new skills and confidence that they have, and pray for them as they teach the skills to others in the community so that they also can become more self sufficient.
- Give thanks for God's many blessings on this community, and for His continued guidance and strength.

For more information on our work at Chibobo:

contact Mike Lampard:
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HMP Director, Staivous Mulumba, with daughter Emma.

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH VISIT TO CHIBOBO.

A team from St. Mary's visited Chibobo in June/July. Their main project was the restoration of the Chibobo Community Church building. Despite being a small team, they were joined by members of the local community to install new windows & doors, render & paint the exterior and add new electrics. Once the mortar around the newly installed frames dries the final touches will be added.

The group also worked with the Koala Club to teach new skills and minister, Rev'd Gavin Ward, conducted 3 days of ministry training for over 50 local pastors and church leaders. Low energy light bulbs replaced old globes across all buildings, reducing the load on the generator, and lighting was installed in the orphan dormitories, allowing the orphans to read in their rooms at night.

Of course, the friendships that were established, and the understanding of the community gained, will always be a lasting memory of any trip to Chibobo.



From this....



To this... renovations almost completed



Orphans & carer, Beatrice, provide a Chibobo welcome.



Mike with the leadership of the Kaseba Community Church, over 2.5 hours from Chibobo



Newly planted grass & garden beds help to beautify the HMP environs.

TRIP PHOTOS—OUT AND ABOUT IN ZAMBIA.



Meeting with Chair of the HMP Board, Pastor Michael Tembo (right) & Staivous



The Chibobo team (in red) playing soccer at the local show. They reached the final.



Mike, Lyn Jordan & Staivous visiting the memorial where Dr David Livingstone died, north of Serenje