

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2013

The Krizevac Project Donation Multiplication

What happens to the thousands of bicycles, books and sewing machines that are given to us every month?

Donated items are packed up by our willing bunch of volunteers into 40' shipping containers. After 3 long months by sea and road to Africa, the containers are off-loaded at Beehive Centre For Social Enterprise. UK businesses like Mobell Communications sponsor shipments.

Beehive is rapidly transforming the township of Chilomoni, Malawi by training thousands in vocational skills and providing hundreds of jobs in the not-forprofit enterprises.

The bike that you got out of the shed for us will be sold to a Malawian, who will be able to travel to work in a fraction of the time it took him to walk. The sewing machine that you brought down from the attic is now providing training for a future tailor who will be able to support her family for life.

But what happens next possibly the most exciting part. All income generated through sales is helping to transform the lives of children. Beehive is now generating enough income to support Mother Teresa Children's Centre which opened in January 2012.

This neat development model means that we help to transform unwanted "rubbish" in the UK into quality care, early education and health support for vulnerable children; we know you'll agree this has got to be the ultimate in recycling.

UNWANTED BIKES + BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP = TRAINING + JOBS = SOCIAL ENTERPRISE + COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION



Hope at Chilomoni's Children's Centre

Little Hope is two years old. Everyday she arrives at Mother Teresa Children's Centre with a beaming smile. She's welcomed by her key worker and eats a hearty breakfast of Lukuni Phala (fortified porridge); Hope joins in the welcome song and settles into a morning story time

Hope's short life has not been easy, and she hasn't always been happy. It was the local Chief who thought Hope's family needed some support, he knew they were vulnerable and that Hope was at risk, but before Mother Teresa Children's Centre, there was nowhere for the family to go.

When the Chief let us know about Hope, she was given a place in the nursery. It was paid for through the sale of bikes donated by our UK supporters. The respite gave her mum a chance to work and earn a living. But after a little while, Hope's key worker became concerned. She gave Hope some valuable attention, and with love and care the team managed to find out about the sexual abuse Hope suffered in her own home. The Care Givers made sure that Hope was treated



by experts at the local hospital; they also helped her Mum to recognise what was happening and to take steps to protect her child. The Family Support Team continue to visit Hope's Mum, she's expecting another baby but has never had a health check. As a single mum she's too embarrassed to visit the clinic by herself. Hope's mum is also able to come along to "stay and play" groups in the children's centre, she talks with more confidence now that she has the company of other mothers. As we develop more activities and train the team of Care Givers to gain more skills, Hope's mum will also be able to attend parenting groups, domestic violence support and confidence building activities. She'll develop her skills so that she can fulfil her potential as Hope's first and most important teacher.

Before we opened the children's centre, the only support that Hope could have accessed would have been two counselling appointments to overcome the abuse. There are only two social workers for the entire region and they simply do not have the capacity to offer the support families need.

There has never been early years care and education like Mother Teresa Children's Centre in Malawi before; the newly-trained team of Care Givers know how to let children lead their own learning through play. They can give individual attention because of the high staff ratio. The Centre is well resourced because of support from schools and nurseries in the UK. The building is a safe, good quality environment designed and built by the Beehive construction team who were supported by volunteer architects and engineers. The Family Support Team is able to build on the care offered in The Centre by visiting families in their homes. They help with everything from basic literacy to home safety. It's been a huge effort for all the Krizevac Project and Beehive team, but it's worth it. The proof is evident just by seeing the progress Hope is making.

During 2013 Mother Teresa Children's Centre will support 2200 children and families in Chilomoni. Not all will have the same needs as Hope's family, some may just want the opportunity to learn and play together. But where the need is greater, there is finally some support available. That has to be a good use of that old bike!

[•]JCB's Dig for Development

It's not just the donations of books and bikes that help to transform a community. "Renting JCB's in Malawi is the best way to make money for development there" says Vince Owen, Managing Director of Krizevac Project. With support from JCB in Rocester, and funding from Mobal Phones USA, Krizevac are planning to send another 5 JCB's to Malawi this year. Vince explains "The construction industry in Malawi is crying out for quality machines with trained operatives. We're renting the ICB's across Malawi, they can generate thousands of pounds every week" All profits from Torrent Plant and Vehicle Hire, are invested into the children's centre and other community projects. "This has to be better than seeking grants or rattling tins to collect money in the UK. This way Malawians are developing their own solutions to end poverty. There are compassionate transactions across all Krizevac Project work. That's what makes us different. Giving can perpetuate inequality whereas transactions are more dignifying." Krizevac are working closely with JCB to develop training for the Malawian team, our vision is to build the first JCB Academy in Africa, it's a big ask, but with the support of UK industry leaders, we're confident that JCBs will play a pivotal role in this inspired community transformation.



Graduation Glee!

"This is the greatest day of my life....oh, apart from having my children!" a smiling Olivia tells us. Under the hot African sun in a crowded Church hall, more than 200 newly trained Malawians were presented with their graduation certificates by government minister Mr John Bande in December 2012. It was a day of pomp and ceremony as the gowned graduates celebrated their achievements. 55 men and women graduated with a Diploma in Early Education and Childcare. This course was written and delivered by Marian Pearson and David Meechan, the two volunteers lived and worked in Malawi for two years, to support each trainee through their training. Another 150 graduates were celebrating their Diploma in Tailoring and Design. The Minister enjoyed a spectacular fashion show; their creations would not have looked out of place on a Parisian catwalk. All Graduates were able to purchase their own sewing machine and many are already running successful design and tailoring businesses.

The Chilomoni Bike Chase

Beehive's newest Director is as keen as mustard to promote Beebikes and boost sales of the sturdy donated Royal Mail bikes across Malawi. A slice of British history is passing. We're all sending emails and ordering parcels online so the trusty posties' bike is being retired over the next few years. Alongside the red telephone box and the Mini Cooper these faithful steeds have come to epitomise the very best of British manufacturing, These reliable handmade bikes made by Pashley are now serving the most needy in Malawi. But, Declan Somers is equally passionate about celebrating St Patrick, the patron saint of his homeland.... how to do both? Hold a St Patrick's Day sponsored bike race in the middle of Malawi of course. If you want to have a giggle, as well as find out more about Beebikes, check the hilarious Facebook page created by Declan. www.facebook.com/BeeBikesMalawi





Join the JPII Revolution

More students than ever started this year at John Paul II Leadership & IT. Over 150 students signed up for weekday & weekend IT courses. As Malawi's 1st IT Institute to roll out the National IT Curriculum for secondary school leavers and with capacity for 400 networked computers, JPII LITI is fast on its way to achieving its motto & 'Inspiring Future Generations'! Why not join the revolution & LIKE us at www.facebook.com/JP2LITI





Situations Vacant

Explore beautiful Malawi and join our team of fantastic volunteers in 2013. We're seeking....

Children's Centre Manager Start as soon as possible

You'll help shape the direction of the new children's centre and offer further training to the early years team. You'll be senior manager in children's services with knowledge of early years development and family support.

Family Support Leader Start August 2013 for six months

You'll be helping the outreach team to support vulnerable local families. With a background in health or social care, you'll help all local support services to work together in Mother Teresa Children's Centre.

Child Care Manager

October 2013 for six months

Teachers and Trainers September 2013 or sooner if possible

With class sizes of 120 children it's impossible for local teachers to give individual time and attention at St James Primary. We're looking for inspirational eaching leaders to help develop and deliver Teaching Assistant training so we can boost capacity in the classroom.

Registered Architect October 2013 for 6 months

To lead the local construction design team, you'll be confident designing everything from industrial units to ' housing, all using an environmentally friendly hydraform block system.

Civil / Structural Engineer Various start dates for 6 months

You'll lead the local construction team to complete the construction of the Beehive campus as well as develop light industrial units for the social enterprises.

Childcare Trainer and Practice Leaders x 2 May 2013 for six months

Needed to help support the group of early years trainees, you'll be qualified to at least NVQ3 with experience of mentoring a team. All volunteers are given flights, insurance, medical expenses as well as accommodation and board throughout your stay in Malawi. You must be aged over 25 years and have a joyous, adventurous nature. Contact us for an informal chat and find out more.

Thank you!

Our grateful thanks go to all who offer support to Krizevac Project, there are too many to name each and every one of you, but there are a few recent and significant supporters who need a special mention.

- David Bell and the team at JCB Tim Shipley and all at Royal Mail
- Mobell Communications and Paragon Projections, Rugeley
- All of our wonderful volunteers both in Malawi and the UK

Donate

If you have books, bikes or sewing machines please contact us to find out how to donate.

Krizevac Project, Cana Family House, Radmore Lane, Abbots Bromley, WSI5 3AS

Telephone: 0845 0036004 Email: info@krizevac.org Visit: www.krizevac.org

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