

Borehole at Awire, Uganda

Melanie Ford

Over the years CMaD has funded over half a dozen boreholes in Uganda. The latest, completed last year, was at Awire in northern Uganda. It is a very dry area and Awire sits on top of a hill, so even when it does rain the water just runs off and is gone. The only constant source of water for

the villagers is the borehole. Sue and John Mathias (CBM linkman) visited this area in April and John relates that the borehole was in constant use, well into the evening. It is right outside the Christadelphian meeting hall, which is a hub for the village, so a great witness. Sue managed to fill a container! Thank you for making this lifeline possible.



Awire borehole, Uganda

Obstetric fistula repair, Tanzania

Melanie Ford

Poor obstetric care in developing countries means that during a difficult childbirth a fistula, or hole, may develop between the vagina and the bladder. As a result the lady is unable to prevent the leaking of urine. This not only means she is constantly wet and smelly but often is ostracized from her community and family and has difficulty having any more children. This has a profound effect on the lady and her family.

Fistulas can be treated, but often women do not know this and, even if they are aware, they may have no means of contacting the hospital or of getting there. This is a massive problem in Tanzania.

Last year CMaD provided help for 20 women to undergo fistula repair. The funding went towards the operations but also enabled



Jennifer © Christian Blind Mission

volunteers to find affected women and arrange for their transport to, and accommodation at, the hospital.

Jennifer's story is that she was married aged 13 years and developed a fistula. The baby died. Her husband left her. She could not attend village events because people complained of the smell. She was constantly leaking urine. She had this condition for 25 years before she heard that something could be done to help. She phoned the number and was visited by an ambassador from the project, who gave her a bus ticket to the hospital. Her accommodation was paid for and she had the repair surgery. Jennifer is now dry and can start a new life!



May We Eat 2015

Luke Whitehorn

For the second year running we invited you to take part in May We Eat – a month of focused fundraising dedicated to our long term projects in Africa. Yet again, we were completely overwhelmed with your generosity and also your ingenuity when it came to fundraising ideas. From running marathons to giving up chocolate for a month, everyone really got behind May We Eat this year, and the fantastic news is you've helped raise over £22,500 and counting! Thank you!

CHRISTADELPHIAN

MEAL A DAY

Autumn 2015

www.meal-a-day.org

Post and Donations:

Christadelphian Meal a Day Fund
PO Box 1178
Bristol
BS39 4WT

Sign up for information and quarterly email updates:

info@meal-a-day.org

Keep up to date with our work

on Facebook at 'Meal-a-Day (CMaD) UK'



Welcome to our Autumn 2015 newsletter.

We hope you enjoy reading about how you have helped to make a difference to communities in Africa, and about a brilliant, inspiring fundraising idea.

Matthew 19 v 14 (NIV)

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these"

Wells for Africa

Lorna and Tim Yearsley

After reading the spring CMaD newsletter as a family we talked about the water in our local river. We certainly wouldn't drink it! Sarah, who is eight, wondered how we could help people in Africa who don't have clean drinking water. So, as part of the 'May We Eat' challenge, she proposed being sponsored for collecting and carrying home water from the river. She carried two litres a distance of two kilometres each day for seven consecutive days. She was generously sponsored by family and friends, raising £620 for "Wells in Africa".



Sarah fundraising for Wells in Africa

Umoja ECD School, Kenya

Richard Walker



Children at Umoja ECD school

Umoja ECD School – Key Facts

Opened: 1997 at Kokotoni Market and moved to present site 4km away in 2006/7

Location: Boyani is 20km from Mombasa off the highway to Nairobi

Project: Fully funded early child development school approximately equivalent to UK nursery/infants

Number of children: 95 aged 4-7 in 3 classes

Staff: 3 teachers, 2 cooks, 2 watchmen/caretakers

Facilities: Church hall divided into two class spaces, classroom, small meeting room, kitchen, store, latrines

Recent developments: Mains water recently supplied to the area with a standpipe at the project

Cost: £13,000 per year including feeding programme, staff salaries, learning materials

Cost per child: £136 per year, or 70p per day (term time)

How can I help?

Click and Raise

www.clickandraise.com is a fundraising website from which all monies raised are donated to CMaD. Access any of the online shopping sites featured on the site and a percentage (typically 5%) of the price of anything you purchase is paid by the shop to Click and Raise. It's a fantastic way of supporting CMaD when shopping, and at no additional cost to you.

Click and Raise was started in 2004 by Hannah and Steve Wilson as a way to facilitate the Kettering Christadelphians supporting CMaD - this soon expanded after an 'e-announce' circular to the Christadelphian community. Between 2004 and 2009 Click and Raise raised £4000. Then things started to take off: £1200 raised in 2010, £1500 in 2011, £2000 in 2012 and in 2013, then in 2014 a leap to £3000. The majority of the money is raised via Amazon, followed by eBay, with the rest of the shops making up about 5% of the income.

Click and Raise is anonymous and uncomplicated so we have little idea of how many people support it but the figures show real love and commitment on the part of those who do. All funds raised go direct into a dedicated bank account and are transferred to CMaD once a year.

Our thanks to Steve and Hannah for their brilliant idea and support. And our thanks to you for supporting CMaD through Click and Raise.



Umoja ('United' in Swahili) is an Early Child Development (ECD) School for children aged 4-7.

It has 95 pupils who attend from the local community in Boyani. It's a very happy place where the children enjoy learning and playing together, preparing them for Primary School.

Meal-a-Day provides money for a feeding programme and education at the ECD. The feeding programme ensures that children, who otherwise may not have adequate meals, receive two meals each school day, which helps with their education and their general health. Meal-a-Day therefore provides 34,200 meals each year to the children at Umoja.

The education is also of a high standard with approximately 75% of the children achieving above national average marks for their age group. Given the interest from the local community the school could possibly be twice as big if the facilities and budget allowed.

Plentiful food, affordable uniforms and school places are considered the norm in the UK. Some children in the Boyani area aren't able to attend an ECD school due to a lack of money to buy uniforms or simply the fact that not enough ECDs exist. Affordability of uniforms is a problem across Kenya with children commonly sent home if they don't have a uniform or if

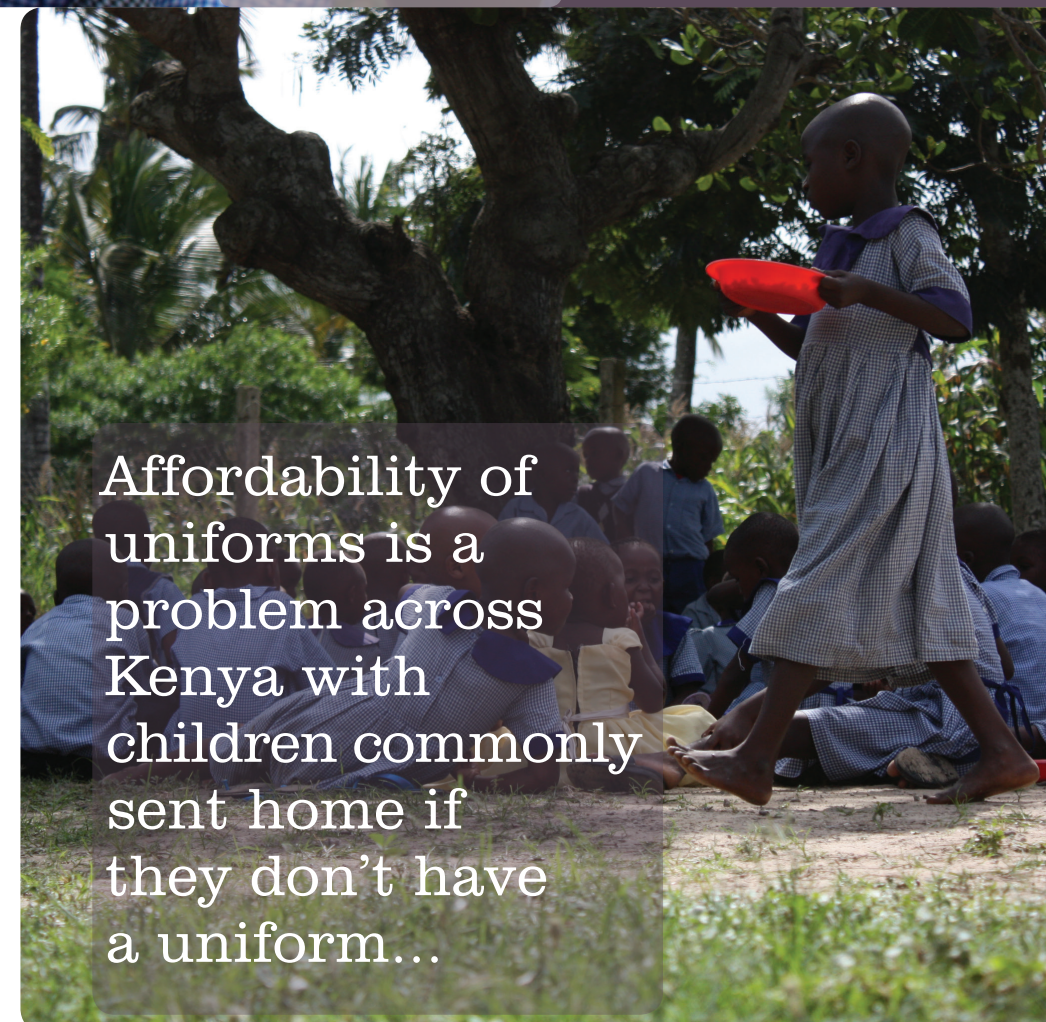
the parents can't afford the required termly top-up of school running costs. At Umoja, however, places are allocated to the most needy in the area with the family's circumstances being the main deciding factor.

It was heartening to arrive there recently with Zakayo, a brother and regional elder from Mombasa, and to meet members of the ECD's Board of Governors and staff to assess the work and to meet the children. The parents are clearly overjoyed to have their children at the school and gave us a very warm welcome with traditional dances. We also enjoyed performances from all of the year groups.

The parents were very happy to learn that, thanks to your generous donations, the school has funding for 2016. The smiles on the children's faces remind you that Meal-a-Day helps those in greatest need with a good start in life.



Mealtime at Umoja ECD school



Affordability of uniforms is a problem across Kenya with children commonly sent home if they don't have a uniform...