



FUM

Helping with the development of the people of the Tabora Region of Tanzania

Newsletter

Registered Charity Number 265345

News of the FDCs

Page 4

Mr Hella's Visit

Page 5

Mr Hella's AGM Address

Page 6

Secondary School Sponsorship

Page 8

Gap Year Opportunities

Page 8

Contact the Officers

Page 9

A Message from the Honorary Secretary

Dear Friends and Supporters of FUM

After suffering our cold, wet spring in the UK, we should spare a thought for our friends in Tabora Region as there the rains have proved fickle, too little falling and at the wrong time for successful crop growing. The maize and rice harvest will be very poor indeed, with some villages harvesting nothing. It has been possible to harvest some groundnuts; those who attended the Annual General Meeting will have had a chance to sample some groundnuts sent to us from Mwanhala FDC. Those who did will testify just how small they were, a reflection of the lack of rain. Crops of cassava and cotton will do a little better



and so we hope that Tabora farmers will not be completely without income. Inevitably the price of food will rise and so in order to help our FDCs we have agreed to increase our

student bursary to each FDC by £500.

Thank you for your continued support for our friends in Tabora Region; I am sure that you

join me in expressing our thanks to the people at the Tabora end of our link who give up their time working hard to ensure the success of our projects. It is they who ensure that the funds we send are used effectively and who advise us about the appropriateness of our projects.

After such a bumper newsletter last autumn, this one will seem a little thin, and in truth that is because there is relatively little to report at this juncture. This is partly because the rains have

ues to work wonders at Mwanhala while the new principals at Sikonge and Urambo, with a year under their belts, have ambitions for their colleges' progress. My thanks to Di Cooper for her unceasing work liaising with the colleges to see how best we can help.

In Mwanhala the connection of the deep borehole to the village water system creeps forward. Progress is being made but the speed of advance depends upon the District Water Engineer. FUM is waiting for the go

Mr Mguba at Sikonge has many ambitious plans for his FDC. He has a computer classroom, popular with locals, who attend for evening classes in basic computer office skills. This is staffed by one lady who is somewhat overwhelmed by her task and so I was delighted to be approached by James Frizell from Florida. James is a graduate working at the firm of Darryl Hobson, an ex Cranbrook pupil who accompanied me to Mwanhala and Urambo with one of the early Cranbrook working parties, and he wants to spend six weeks or so doing voluntary work in Africa. As his expertise is in computing, I jumped at the chance to send James to Sikonge FDC. As can be imagined, Mr Mguba is delighted and is looking forward to welcoming James to the FDC. I am very grateful to Achilles Inc. for sponsoring this placement.

Readers of the last newsletter will remember the report of Alice Roucoux who did such great work fixing broken sewing machines at the three FDCs. Her plea was for the colleges to be equipped with more robust sewing machines than the rather fragile Chinese made 'Butterfly' ones they had acquired. I was delighted when Nick Vinall, our treasurer, told me that he had made contact with Workaid and that they had agreed to ship nine good quality sewing machines to each of the three FDCs, along with kits of woodworking, masonry and agricultural tools. These will go out in a container in August and we will be able to squeeze in a consignment of secondary school text books. Mama Ruoja,



Mwanhala FDC

been poor this season and villages have fewer resources to spend on development projects. Equally we are finding regular communication with both Nzega and Urambo rather difficult.

FUM continues its financial support for the Folk Development Colleges in Mwanhala, Sikonge and Urambo. All three are in good heart, with higher numbers of students following a variety of different vocational courses. Mama Malyeli contin-

ahead when we will immediately transfer the funds for the next stage in this project. The major factor holding the project back has been the electrification of the village. The Nzega to Tabora road, which passes through Mwanhala, is being metalled and the villages along the road are being connected to the National Grid at the same time. This makes the water project much more straightforward, but naturally must come first. I am confident that we will succeed in the end.

in Tabora, is very pleased with this and will assign these to needy schools around the region.

Last December, FUM sent over £6000 to Nzega destined to contribute towards the construction of a dormitory building at the new secondary school in Semembele village. As has been mentioned before, there is a rapid expansion of secondary education in Tanzania, the idea being that all young people have ready access to secondary schools. Semembele School was started as part of this programme designed to serve not only Semembele village, but also the children from the surrounding area. Many of these children come from miles away and it is for them that a dormitory building is essential. I hope that this project will be completed by 2013. Here I should salute the efforts of Durham University students and those at Cranbrook School who together have raised the bulk of the money sent. I hope that some of these students will



Ladies at Mwanhala MCH Clinic

have a chance to visit the project towards the end of its construction.

The members at the AGM in Exeter at the beginning of April were delighted to hear from Mr Hella, visiting us from Tanzania. Mr Hella was the Planning Officer in Nzega until 2005, but is now the District Executive Director in nearby Bariadi District. He was invited to visit the UK by Cranbrook School, and

before coming to the UK visited some of the FUM projects in Nzega District. He has brought us much needed information; moreover he will visit Nzega and Tabora again on his return to clarify some issues for us. This sort of regular personal contact between Tabora and the UK is vital in order to maintain the efficiency of our project delivery.

I end on a cheerful note. In the last newsletter I reported the serious illness of our good friend Mr Masatu. I am pleased to be able to report that he is making good progress and visits his office for two hours each day to do a little light work. Great thanks must go to Frank Charles who has had to cover much of Mr Masatu's work, and yet has continued to keep an eye on FUM projects. Truly we are blessed with the most splendid collaborators in Tabora.

Best wishes
Rod Smith



The waiting room at Malilita MCH Clinic

News of the FDCs

During the autumn of 2011, FUM made contact with the charity Workaid. This organisation refurbishes a variety of tools and equipment and forwards them to selected vocational training and self-help groups within East Africa.

Following a successful written application, the charity awarded FUM support to provide equipment to our three FDCs. This is an excellent development as it means that each of the FDCs will receive equipment which should help their courses considerably. All three colleges will receive a number of Singer sewing machines - an opportunity to replace some of the much poorer quality Chinese machines with which Alice, our TFSR volunteer, struggled last year. Woodworking tools will also be sent to each FDC, and some electric woodworking tools to Urambo. A quantity of agricultural hand tools may also be added. It is hoped the consignment will be away in July or August 2012.

Further external assistance is being offered to Sikonge FDC in the form of a young American IT expert who is to spend a couple of months offering technical and teaching support to the college in its IT programme. Mr Mguba, the Principal, is keen to develop opportunities in this field and hopefully those wishing to upgrade their skills from outside the college may also benefit from James' presence.

Each of the Principals has reported good numbers joining their courses for this academic year although there is the constant problem for parents and family members who find it difficult to find the cost of the fees. FUM is currently supporting thirty students at Sikonge and thirty at Urambo with bursaries. A num-

ber of students at Mwanhala also receive assistance.

A particular worry for the Principals at present is the high cost of food, and in the case of Urambo and Sikonge, the cost of water too, due to the drought situation per-

“This is an excellent development as it means that each of the FDCs will receive equipment which should help their courses considerably”

vading the region once again. Although there was some early rain, encouraging farmers to plant their crops, subsequently the rains have all but failed and harvests threaten to be very poor. It was agreed at the committee meeting

in March that an additional £500 should be sent to each FDC to assist with these higher costs.

Urambo FDC is busy completing the construction of shelving for Urambo Hospital, a scheme negotiated when Jo Taylor was in Tanzania last July. Of course this benefits both institutions and gives the college carpentry students excellent experience in fulfilling practical contracts. The college has completed other carpentry projects for government in the locality.

Mama Malyeli, at Mwanhala FDC, reports that the college shop is now in operation; however she is frustrated that there is still no electricity link from the National Grid supply which passes very near to the college. She is concerned that government do not have the funds to complete the link-up.



Mama Malyeli has her blood pressure tested at Malilita Clinic

Mr Hella, Our Tanzanian Visitor

The Cranbrook School Tanzanian Support Group

We were delighted to welcome Mr Hella to Cranbrook School recently. Mr Hella is the District Executive Director in the Bariadi District in the neighbouring Shinyanga Region and he was here to strengthen our links with Tanzania and to help us plan the trip for the school group who will visit Tanzania in 2013.

With Mr Hella's help, it looks likely the team will be able to visit the game reserves in Serengeti and Ngorogoro after their time working on projects in schools and FUM clinics in Tabora Region.

While in school Mr Hella spoke with many PSHE classes about the effects of HIV / AIDS in Tanzania. He told them about the most vulnerable children who have been orphaned by the disease and

“Mr Hella spoke with many PSHE classes about the effects of HIV / AIDS in Tanzania.”

are now struggling to survive in their small 'family groups', especially now that there has been a large drop in global funding for access to safe accommodation, food, medicines and education. He also worked with A level Economics groups

who were learning about third world economies, and they described him as a 'legend'. The Charity Committee and the Tanzanian Support Group also benefited from his input, and even the CCF enjoyed his company and his enthusiasm.

Thanks to the generosity of staff members, Mr Hella was able to visit various places locally, such as Rochester Cathedral, Tunbridge Wells, Whitstable Fish Market, the Turner Gallery in Margate, the Olympic Park in Stratford, and even the Emirates Stadium, home to his team Arsenal! He also visited some of our local primary schools and spoke to the pupils there.

On Tuesday May 1st a reception was held in the Performing Arts Centre in honour of Mr Hella. Students who hope to travel to Tanzania next year and their parents heard about last year's trip with the help of slide shows and anecdotes from some of the students on the 2011 trip. Mr Hella spoke to the parents about how important these visits are to the Tanzanian government, and how the villages look forward to visits from Cranbrook School. He then presented the school

with two Tanzanian flags and was himself presented with a clock mounted on a plaque of

“Mr Hella was able to visit various places locally”

Cranbrook School, designed and made in the technology department, to mark his visit here.

The Tanzanian Support Group would like to thank the CSPA who funded Mr Hella's airfare.

The Secondary School Sponsorship Project

£60 a year for 5 years pays for the secondary school fees for a child as well as helping with the cost of books and uniform

See page 8 for more information

Mr Hella's Address to the 48th AGM

(District Executive Director in the Bariadi District of Tanzania)

Ladies and Gentleman, Today it is a great pleasure for me to attend the 48th AGM here in Exeter. I understand how costly it is to invite me to this meeting and so I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Honourable Pricilla Gillet in particular, Honourable Chairperson, Mr Mike Izzard and Honourable Rod Smith for their continued follow up during the preparation of my journey; we maintained very close contact that kept each end well informed. Thanks also go to Jo Taylor and to the parents association of Cranbrook School whose financial support made my visit possible.

All in all, I appreciate the contribution made by all FUM members to make this event possible. From my heart, sincerely, I am pleased to be with you here today.

Honourable Chairman, allow me to use this opportunity to remind FUM members that it is ten years since your organisation invited me for the first time to attend 2002 AGM held then at Exeter University. At that time I was accompanied by Mama Malyeli, the Principal of Mwanahala FDC. I know she is familiar to most of you. She is still the principal at Mwanhala and on 3rd April 2012, I visited Mwanhala and we had discussion together. Kindly please, accept her best wishes to the 48th AGM. Thank you.

Honourable Chairman, let me share with you a few reminders of events that occurred ten years ago while I was in Nzega District. This is important to know because it has a direct link to the success of The Friends of Urambo and Mwanhala in the Tabora Region.

In the year 2000, I was appointed to run the district planning de-

partment of Nzega; that was when I first started correspondence with FUM, the first project being the building of the headteacher's house at Imeli school. FUM went on to fund the refurbishment and enlargement of Imeli and then agreed to grant bursaries to successful Imeli pupils who had qualified for, but could not afford, secondary education. The bursary scheme has been a huge success, with FUM members sponsoring 100 students each year. My heartfelt thanks to all the sponsors; your help is truly invaluable.

In 2002, I attended the AGM and presented development projects supported by FUM in Tabora, Urambo and Nzega districts and the FDCs of Mwanhala and Urambo. Observation showed that development funds were increased, trust with Nzega District was restored and DPLO development account was used to receive funds for projects in Tabora Region. With a secure method of transferring money in place, FUM was able to increase its efforts.

Between 2002 and 2005, a remarkable amount of work was done by

FUM in the Tabora region; past financial reports bear witness to this statement.

In the year 2006, I was appointed to hold the District Executive Director post and was transferred to Kibaha District. I felt to be far from FUM because I was out of your area of operation. I thank God that in 2007 Cranbrook students called in at Kibaha while on their way to Dar es Salaam and stayed with us for a day. That was good indicator that we can still work together. Thanks go to the Kibaha Programme officer, because the reception was good and well prepared.

Since 2008 I have been serving as DED for the Bariadi District in Shinyanga region, the region next to Tabora, and thus I have had the chance to visit Nzega and Mwanhala several times. I remain deeply attached to FUM and prepared to help whenever I can.

Honourable Chairman, I decided to outline my situation in order to establish the evident link between FUM performance in Nzega and my career success. I remember a statement made by some of you:

"Mr Hella, can you show us your boss to consult for DED promotion?" Thanks to God, this is my sixth year serving as DED and I still have 10 years of service to come. I believe that my association with FUM has made a great contribution to my career success. Thank you very much.

Honourable Chairman, while on the way to Dar es Salaam, I visited Nzega District and managed to reach four development sites: John Gillet Memorial Dispensary in Malilita, Shigamba and Imeli schools, and FDC Mwanhala. Generally these projects are in good condition and the communities appreciate the service rendered.

Honorable Chairman, during presentation of the officers' AGM reports, I was interested and wish to comment on the student bursary programme. This area is challenging to district management because demand for bursaries increases, continually placing pressure on the district budget available. The impact of HIV/AIDS is resulting in increased number of orphans and single parents families. It is a socio-economic issue which calls for multisectoral attention.

Honorable Chairman, I would like to conclude my speech by lamenting on two aspects. First, I had discussion recently with the Planning Department of Nzega and advised them to adhere fully to FUM projects because commitment made by FUM to Nzega District is an advantage in the essence of provision of goods and services to the community. They have to be proactive and not just wait and see what FUM will do. I have also reminded them that having FUM as a partner to Development is an opportunity to the district.

Secondly, I understand from the FUM constitution that this organisation is financed by members' contributions and other sources of funding. Today we shall have a fundraising through selling at affordable prices a few goods which I have brought with me from Tanzania and the money raised shall be my contribution to FUM. Please join with me to raise funds; come and buy.

Honourable Chairman, I said at the beginning, I am really pleased at the way your organization remains as close as possible to me. It is an encouragement towards future decisions. Therefore, I will spend much of the time while here

discussing with you about the best decisions to make.

Honorable President, Chairman and Secretary General, once again, I thank you very much indeed for allowing me to speak on the 48th AGM. It is rare occasion and I hope I have properly represented my feelings.

ASANTE SANA, KARIBU TANZANIA.

Thank you for listening.

Mr Hella



The Staff at Malilita Clinic

Secondary School Sponsorship Project

Jenny Wills (Education Officer)

Do you know about the Secondary School Sponsorship Project?

This project, which enables disadvantaged students to attend Secondary School, has been evolving since 2004. As a result, many students have already completed five years of secondary school education and some have moved on to university. Without the support of our sponsors, these children would not be able to continue with their studies after they leave primary school. The sponsorship covers the cost of school fees as well as provid-

ing a little extra towards uniform and materials.

What is the commitment?

You can sponsor a student for as little as £60 pa, which can be paid in a variety of ways, including £5 a month, for 5 years.

At present, FUM supporters are sponsoring 90 students (a big thank you to all the current sponsors) but every year I need to find more sponsors as some

students leave and new ones appear on the list. At present I have several students without a sponsor, so if you would like to sponsor a student in 2012 please contact me as soon as possible. Please tell your friends too. All of your donation goes directly to benefit an individual student.

Thank you

Jenny Wills, Education Officer
jennywills@sapo.pt

Are you a student looking for a gap year placement in Africa?

You will know that there are many organisations keen to latch on to your enthusiasm which will provide you with a placement.

You will know too that these placements are often very expensive and that in the opinion of VSO many of the projects they offer are not of great benefit to the communities they are meant to serve.

FUM is able to arrange a limited number of teaching posts in schools around the Tabora Region. We have had a lot of success with such placements which are often in quite isolated places. For example, this June three university students are celebrating their graduation

with a six week teaching placement in Bariadi District.

If you are a person in search of adventure, are self reliant, don't need creature comforts, are prepared to be a teaching assistant, and are interested in discovering the real Africa, please get in touch with FUM. We may be able to help.

We charge nothing for our help; all we do is put you in touch with a suitable school if a placement becomes available. Our liaison officers in Tabora

Region will ensure that suitable arrangements are made for your accommodation and will arrange transport for you from Tabora Airport to your school. What does it cost you? Your travel to Tabora (we can suggest how to arrange this) and your living costs (currently £5 per day) paid to your hosts.

If you are interested, please contact Rod Smith by email. rodsmith@btconnect.com

FUM Officers



Don't forget to check out the FUM website at <http://fumuk.org.uk> or just scan this QR code with your smartphone.



<p>Secretary Rod Smith Tanner House Sissinghurst Rd Biddenden Kent TN27 8EX Tel 01580 291969 rodsmith@btconnect.com</p>	<p>Chairman Mike Izzard 74 Deer Park Avenue Teignmouth Devon TQ14 9LJ Tel 01626 779192 mike.izzard@sky.com</p>	<p>Treasurer Nick Vinall Shrewsbury Cottage Bakers Cross Cranbrook Kent TN17 3JW Tel 01580 713332 nick@vinall.net</p>
<p>Medical Officer Mrs Jo Taylor Jubilee Cottage Headcorn Road Frittenden TN17 2EJ Tel 01580 852262</p>	<p>Technical Training Officer Martin Gilbert Follaton Lodge Plymouth Rd Totnes Devon TQ9 5NA Tel 01803 862463 martom.gilbert@virgin.net</p>	<p>FDCs Liaison Officer Di Cooper 12 Highweek Village Newton Abbot Devon TQ12 1QA Tel 01626 365774 alandi40@alandi40.plus.com</p>
<p>Membership Secretaries Jonathan & Julie Overnell 25 Bedford Street Bere Alston, Yelverton Devon PL20 7DF jjeo@hotmail.co.uk</p>	<p>Press Officer John Walker 63 Collapark Totnes Devon TQ9 5LW Tel 01803 867721 liberal@members.shines.net</p>	<p>Education Officer Jenny Wills Casa Margarida CP 56 Foral-Larga Vista 8375-037 S B Messines Algarve Portugal jennywills@sapo.pt</p>
<p>Schools Liaison Officer Suzanne Horsfield 1 & 2 Welsby Cottages St Cleer Liskeard PL14 5DR Tel 01579 347151 sioux.horsfield@btinternet.com</p>	<p>Newsletter Editors Mary & Martin Kenway 3 Tremeddan Terrace Liskeard Cornwall PL14 4DU Tel 01579 347829 martin@martinkenway.wanadoo.co.uk</p>	<p>Liaison Officers Tanzania Mr YEC Masatu & Mr F Charles Office of the Regional Administrative Secretary PO Box 25 Tabora Tanzania</p>
<p>Minutes Secretary Dr Iain Chorlton Corner Cottage Churchtown St Cleer Liskeard Cornwall PL14 5DT</p>		

The Final Word



“If you are a person in search of adventure, are self reliant, don't need creature comforts, are prepared to be a teaching assistant, and are interested in discovering the real Africa, please get in touch with FUM. We may be able to help.”

Best wishes
Rod Smith