



CHAIRMAN’S CHATTER

Dear Supporter,

As you read this Newsletter, the Trustees are in the middle of their autumn awareness campaign, where we catch up with old friends (to tell them what we have been doing and encourage further support) and hopefully meet with new people to create an awareness that will lead to fresh support, so vital to the growth of our work. We look forward to seeing you on our travels.

We have confirmed the date of an exciting project for next year. The 13th June 2015 will be the date on which we hold our inaugural **Walk4Hope**. The idea being to give children a feel of what it must be like to be a Zambian child going to school (and back!) and in doing so, give them the collective opportunity to sponsor the purchase of Literacy Boxes through financial support from their local communities. At the end of the walk, we will give the children a meal of porridge and then hold a lesson in a barn before they walk back to the start!!!

It is a simple project that can be adopted by Rotary Clubs, individuals and other organisations and taken into schools or youth clubs, where it can be developed into an event best suited to its community. If this project has appeal, please make contact with us to discuss staging it in your locality.

Involving local schools and linking them with schools in Zambia is a big part of what we do

and in this newsletter you see how this has worked for Stanley Grove Infants School and Hyde Park Infants School.

We tell you a bit about the scope of Grace Lutanda’s work with Literacy in a Box and give further feedback on the project close to Grace’s heart, as she and Lyn Callendar, of Operation Sunshine, see the refurbishments take shape at Manaca School, in Lusaka, ahead of growing support for the supply of Literacy Boxes and text books to be sent to help the 400 pupils in the school.

I hope you enjoy the read and as usual, if you have any queries, do visit our website and get in touch.

Thank you all for your ongoing support.

Ian Parker, Chairman

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WORKING WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS

If you've been following the story of Penryn School and Mkhanya Community School on Facebook and in our newsletters you'll know that our mission is not just to help children overseas but also for children in this country to understand just how different their lives would be in another country.

We'd like to share another two stories with you.

STANLEY GROVE SCHOOL

During the half term starting in January 2014 year 5 of Stanley Grove School in Wakefield studied overseas cultures with particular emphasis on Africa. They looked at the UN Charter of the Rights of the Child. They explored how different children lives would be in areas as diverse as Sub-Saharan Africa, North Korea and remote parts of Australia. The children were divided into groups, made lists and ordered rights. The right to an education was towards the top of most lists.

Ian and Andrea Parker visited the school in March to wrap up the class African topic. They told the children about education in Zambia and shared with them their first hand experiences. Andrea modelled traditional clothes that had been made for her by women in one of the villages they visited.

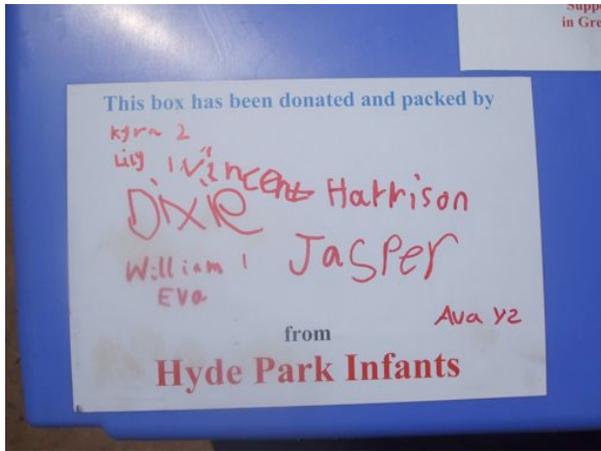
The children presented Ian and Andrea with the proceeds of a fundraising African evening they had held together with a scrapbook about their school and letters that they had written to the Zambian children who would be receiving the Literacy Box that they had helped to fund.

The children have just received replies from the Zambian children and we are very grateful that the School and parents have given permission for us to share their delight with you in these photos.

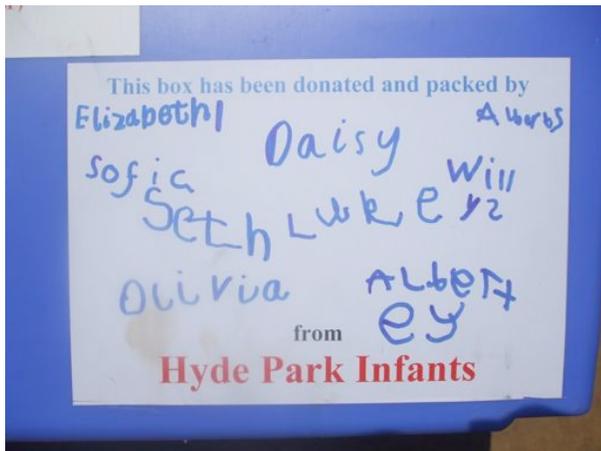


HYDE PARK INFANTS SCHOOL

In February Hyde Park Infants School in Plymouth raised money, helped pack a box for us, and signed their names on the box.



Peter sent back some wonderful photos and a thank you video to show to the children at Hyde Park School. Just click on the image below to watch the video.



SEPTEMBER BOX SHIPMENT

Thanks to all your generous donations we have been able to keep up the momentum by sending another 40 boxes on the Operation Sunshine container that left Folkestone in September.

We are again grateful to Quickstore in Saltash for providing us with packing facilities; and we received an unexpected bonus when Quickstore asked Trustee Geoff Lucock to talk about our charity at a recent Tamar Business Network breakfast meeting and presented us with a cheque.

The boxes have just been received by Peter Phiri in Zambia and the contents distributed to children at the Pearl Education Zone.



BOX DESTINATIONS

Many of you will be familiar with our box destination webpage, which has got somewhat busy as we send more and more boxes. Our running total to Zambia now stands at 488.

Grace Lutanda, shown opposite, taking delivery of boxes to Chongwe school, has overseen the safe delivery of over 100 of these to schools that we have previously shown under the general heading of Good Shepherd Ministries.

However following the Trustees' trip to Zambia last year, we now appreciate just how many schools Grace has been supporting. We have updated our box destination webpage with fuller details which you can see by clicking on the map below.

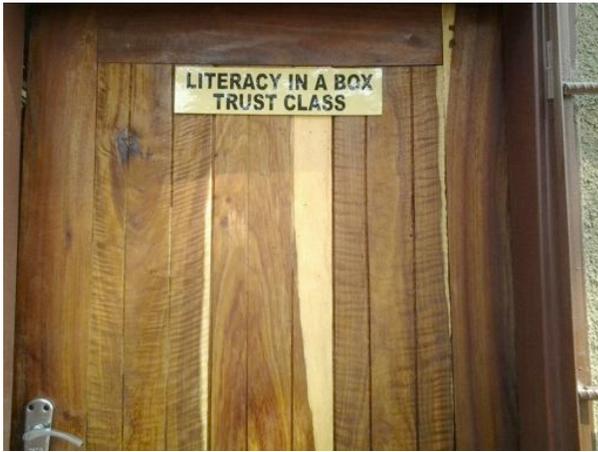
In total we are now supporting almost 40 schools and we have calculated that it needs around 1,000 boxes a year to keep these schools adequately supplied with basic school materials. Please give us all the support you can to help us achieve this objective



MANACA SCHOOL

Our project to provide Literacy Boxes and Zambian curriculum text books to Manaca Community School is progressing well.

The building work, which will provide a secure environment for storing school materials, is now complete and we were particularly touched to learn that one of the classrooms has been dedicated to Literacy in a Box.



The work was completed while Lyn Callendar (below) who runs our logistics partner, Operation Sunshine, was on one of her many trips to Zambia. It also coincided with the arrival of some Literacy Boxes from our March shipment.



Incidentally you may notice that the boxes have two labels on the front rather than the usual one. We are always happy to label

boxes up with information about the donor, and anyone who helped us pack the boxes, and obtain photos. The boxes you can see being distributed were packed by Tavistock Interact Club, which includes pupils from both Kelly College and Tavistock College. You can see one of them in the photo below just after packing before it started their its to Zambia.



Support for the project continues to grow. Our partners to date are:-

Baldock Rotary Club, who have pledged money for 3 boxes (£885), together with a matching amount from their Rotary District;

Goodwill and Growth for Africa who have pledged £1,000;

Medway Sunlight Rotary club who have pledged £600 together with around £1,000 from money raised for Rotary causes on behalf of Clive Lawrence, a recently deceased member of their Club. They are also applying for some additional funds from their District;

and finally our own sponsor, Roborough Rotary Club. Their President this year is Phil Chesters who is one of our Trustees. He recently did the cycling leg of a Team Triathlon, along with last year's President, swimmer Caroline Easton and next year's President, runner Helen West. They were raising money for both Literacy in a Box and Right to Play, a global charity which uses

sport and play to educate and empower children and young people to overcome the effects of poverty, conflict and disease in disadvantaged communities around the world.

Over £900 was raised for Literacy in a Box and the Club has also applied for a District grant of £500.

If all grant applications are successful we will have between £6,000 and £6,500 for the project.



PHOEBE'S FAMILY KENYA

Our first three boxes to Kenya have just arrived at their destination. The following is an extract from Phoebe's Family website:-

The Literacy Boxes containing school equipment for the schools run by Phoebe Onyango, have arrived at the school and the equipment has been given to the delighted children. The children will have pens, pencils, exercise books, coloured pencils, rulers and a school bag each. All of these things will help the teachers and make it easier for the children to learn.



So a huge thank you to Locks Heath Rotary club for raising the money to pay for the boxes and another huge thank you to Roborough Rotary Club for running this fantastic scheme and Amba Forwarding for organising the shipping. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You.

FACEBOOK ROUNDUP

Do have a look at our Facebook page www.facebook.com/literacyinabox for more news and photos. You don't need to be a Facebook user to see our content.

You can also now access all of our Facebook postings very easily from our website News Events page www.literacyboxtrust.org.uk/news.html

If you're not already a Facebook fan then please become one and if you're not a Facebook user just bookmark our page www.facebook.com/literacyinabox and make regular returns.

THE LAST WORDS

We have just heard the great news that we will be receiving around £5,500 from a grant made by the RIBI Donations Trust enabling us to send 20 Literacy Boxes on the Philippine Community Fund container leaving Portsmouth in December.

Our Literacy in a Box ambassador Rachel Gerrish has been busy. She has just returned from a trip to Zambia where she presented Literacy Boxes to two very rural community schools in Kafue National Park and in November she will be off to Gujerat in India to participate in the International RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) event. In between she managed to fit in a fundraising sky dive to enable her to present a Literacy Box to a School in India.

There will be lots more on these two stories in our January 2015 newsletter.

