

# Mpika Relief Fund

Working for the relief of hunger and suffering in the heart of Africa  
Registered charity No: 1106841

Head Office: 2, Commercial Street, Denholme, Bradford BD13 4AD

Chair: Mrs June Martin Tel: 07737731077 Shop Tel 01274 416226

e-mail: [mpikarelieff@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mpikarelieff@yahoo.co.uk) Web-Site: [www.mpika.org](http://www.mpika.org)



## Summer 2011



### *June's Message.*

Dear Friends and supporters,

First of all I must say a big THANK YOU for all that you have done, especially to our helpers, without whom I would have gone completely mad! Also to our sponsors and regular donors who provide us with a steady base on which to build. Thanks also to those who donate and buy from our shops because without you we could not send £2,650 per month on average to Zambia.

News on the home front: Nikki's very brave fund raising parachute jump is happening on 11th September. Please support her with sponsorship if you possibly can, she has never jumped out of a plane before!!! You can text a donation by phone or through PayPal on our website or by cheque or in person. Details below.

There is also news of our new storage facilities (see article). After the successful improvements in our Denholme shop we hope to revamp our Keighley store as soon as our reserves have reached a comfortable level - anyone willing to offer their skills?

Our next container is planned for March/April next year. Pete and I are hoping to be there when it arrives.

Please get in touch by phone, e-mail or in person if you are interested in sponsoring one of our children or becoming more involved in our charity. Even a regular half day a week would be greatly appreciated.

Best Wishes,

*June*

### *News from Jenny*

Dear Friends and supporters in England,

Thank you so much for all your support.

I would also like to thank the anonymous person who sent a lovely parcel of chocolate and bath things it made my day

We have a new arrival, a baby boy, Gideon. He came to us hours after delivery as his mother died in childbirth, and he was lucky to pull through. He was named after one of our faithful drivers, who felt very honoured; Gideon senior now watches over him and spoils him!

From the farms we have harvested 200 sacks of maize 250kg of beans and 450kg of ground nuts (peanuts).

At the moment all the children are well. The babies who were small on June and Pete's last visit are all growing and walking and are very mischievous! Hazel is grown and is very kind to the other babies; she likes to help looking after them. All the children are doing well at school especially Memory, Peter and Sheila. Sheila has managed to write a letter to England and I didn't even have to correct it!

Some of the children are starting grade 7 next year, so the constructing of first stages of the high school is becoming more urgent.

May God bless you all for what we have managed to achieve together.

*Jenny*

### **Baby Gideon Mupelwa**

Jenny reports "The baby was brought in by a very old woman, the grandmother of the lady who delivered the baby. Gideon's mother died soon after the delivery with severe bleeding. She was alone.

The old woman had to beg the community where she lives to help her with the money to bring the baby to the Orphanage. According to her this baby was the 6<sup>th</sup> child to this woman. She had never been married and each child had a different father and the father of this baby was unknown. The baby was born at 6pm on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2011 and 14 hours later arrived at the Orphanage. The baby still had his cord untied although it was not bleeding. He was very healthy looking and had a sucking reflex and a good colour. She told us she had nothing to do with the baby and we can name him as she already had enough problems looking after the five children left by her granddaughter.

We decided to give him the first name of our friend and helper who drives the car and Land Rover, Gideon. We gave him the Surname Mupelwa, which in our language means 'the baby was given to us by God'. He sucks very well and has no problems at the moment. I pray to Almighty God that you will continue your support as I could not say no to this lovely baby as it was such a desperate situation."



## MPIKA Gala Day

Once again, it was my pleasure and delight to man the stall at the Gala for Mpika, ably abetted by Heather Stringer, whose bright attire won us a photo in the T&A. Staff from the shop also helped swell the funds and drew in customers to 'Spin the Wheel', 'Pick a 'Lucky Dip', 'Find a 'Straw' and 'Guess the Sweets in the Jar'.

Another attraction to our table was the mysterious stranger with dreadlocks, who turned out to be Pete, June's husband, getting into the fun atmosphere of the occasion. Of other items on sale, hats were a sell-out due to the unusual weather; no need for a Gazebo thank goodness and a 'Soft Toys Box' at 50p, which were snapped up by dog owners for their beloved pooches.

Nicky and Debbie had worked hard overnight to fill the Lucky Dip with prizes and arrange the Spin the Wheel gifts; many thanks go to them for a tedious job, which continued into the following week when we went to Harold Park Fun Day and Cullingworth Gala.

To all those who contributed to make this a profitable effort whether you bought, donated goods or helped on the day, we thank you sincerely from the children of The Village of Hope Orphanage, Mpika. God Bless you.

Tina Watkin.



Susanna Aunty K and the children

## Nikki's BIG Jump

Nikki, a volunteer in our Denholme shop, is taking to the skies in September in a sponsored parachute jump and she is looking for you to sponsor her. She is going to leap out of an airplane at 14,000 feet and wants a big sum of money in sponsorship to make it all worthwhile. As she floats back down to earth she will be thinking of all the good that money will do for the kids at Mpika Orphanage. Please don't disappoint her!

### How can I sponsor Nikki?

- ♥ Sponsor Nikki for £5 by simply texting **JUMP32** to **70070** from your mobile phone - there is no limit to the number of times you can do this so be generous and do it a few times!!
- ♥ Go to the shops and sign up there.
- ♥ Use PayPal – go to <http://www.mpika.org/donations.html> and press the "Donate" button. In the comments box put in JUMP32 so we know to register it as sponsorship for Nikki's BIG jump

## Sponsorship News

For several months, along with Christine Hancock, I have been working to formalise the Sponsorship side of the Mpika Relief Fund. We all felt that there was a lack of feedback from the orphanage/children to their sponsors. This was not really anybody's fault, but more due to the rapid development of the Orphanage and School, and the lack of time for anyone to sit down with the children and help them to compile letters etc. We are going some way to addressing this by devising a 'tick sheet' for each child, with the important questions everyone would like answered - this would hopefully speed up the process for Jenny, and she has agreed that it would be helpful. Also, we are working on letters to sponsors being incorporated in the English curriculum programme - the Headmaster has agreed in principle and we would like this to get underway after the summer holidays. We are aiming that there will be correspondence and updates sent to sponsors twice a year; together with school reports for those children of school age, and an up-to-date photograph once a year.



Peter Kasuba and some of his classmates. Peter is doing well and has a sponsor.

We now have 13 children currently sponsored, but would very much like to see more, so if you know of any family or friends who would be willing to sponsor a child at Mpika. The suggested amount is £8 for sponsoring education, or £15 for sponsoring the living expenses, please do get in touch with us at the Denholme address - although it may not appear to be the case, these children really do benefit enormously from the knowledge that someone 'out there' cares about them specifically! They also enjoy receiving communications from their sponsors. Whilst we realise the cost of postage is now phenomenal, it is possible to send a letter or small parcel out to Mpika for 'your' child whenever a container is going - possibly next spring, but this to be confirmed.

Noelle Thornton.

## The Warehouse

### Something new has begun!

Due to the needs of our friend Agatha, who was desperate for storage for the goods that she had collected to send to an orphanage in Zimbabwe, we have now acquired a joint space in Dalton Mills, at a very low rent. This is already being filled with books, medical equipment, school furniture and much more, in readiness for the next container which we are hoping to ship early next year. Huge thanks to Pete for the wonderful job he has done in packing, labelling and building bays in the warehouse, to store everything neatly.

This has served a dual purpose, freeing up valuable space in the shop and garage. It is also an overflow for furniture when we are struggling for storage space. Hopefully this will mean that when the next container arrives everything will be ready to go, we have already obtained lots of school chairs and equipment from Hazelbeck School which recently closed to merge with another school.



## Zimbabwe News

Agatha Chawira writes:

We have achieved something wonderful; we have managed to send a 40ft container to Mathew Rusike Children's Home near Harare, Zimbabwe.

Firstly we thank the almighty God, who has given us the strength and the spirit of working this through, Mpika Relief Fund, CART in Huddersfield, and other friends, relatives and not forgetting our trustees who were working tirelessly with the thought of helping those who are in need. I myself (Agatha) and Pricilla Chotto have teamed up to form a charity which would help two orphanages, Mathew Rusike Children's Home and New Hope Kingdom Kids. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Agatha

If you would like more information please go to:

<http://www.matthewrusike.org/pages/Introduction.htm> and <http://www.mpata.org/>

We also offer talks and a slide show free of charge to any group who wish to know more about Mpika. If your school or society wants to know more we will come – just ring and ask.

