



Chibobo News

Building of the Chibobo High School has commenced.

The building of the Chibobo High School is well underway. Stage 1 (Grade 10) consists of 5 teacher houses, a 1 x 3 classroom block, 2 specialist room block and toilets. The Chibobo community have made the majority of the bricks for the buildings, with each section of the community being responsible for a designated number of bricks. The bricks are formed, left to dry and then fired on site.

We have partnered with Mobile Mission Maintenance (MMM), who have provided the steelwork for the building framework and roofing frames. They have a machine in Melbourne that forms the profiles required, and another machine in Zambia.

Work commenced in September 2013 on the houses. Local builders have been employed and, in a region where the majority of people lack employment, the project has employed up to 30 people full time and another 85 doing 'piece work'.

By the end of February the 5 houses will have been built to gable level, ready for the roofing frames to be attached. The slabs for the classroom and specialist blocks have been laid. In March a team of 10 from Australia + 2 locals from MMM Zambia will spend 3 weeks in Chibobo erecting the framework for the classroom blocks and adding the roofing to the houses.

The finishing of Stage 1 will depend on finances. Another \$70,000 is needed to complete the work.



Working on the teacher houses for the High School

Why is a High School needed?

The Chibobo Basic school only allows local children to receive an education to Grade 9. After that, if they can afford it, families need to send their children to Serenje, 30km away. They need to stay in the Zambia compound, a 'slum' area where they fall prey to a range of vices. Most do not complete their schooling, and most return to Chibobo HIV+ and, for the girls, pregnant. There must be a better way to provide hope for a future. The High School will give an option to the Chibobo community.

Tables & Chairs for the Children.

The container that arrived in Chibobo from Australia in early January contained excess furniture from the old Junior School at Overnewton College. The tables and chairs are being distributed to the local schools, especially those

needing furniture for their junior classes. The schools in the Chibobo area are vastly under-resourced, and good quality furniture will make a big difference. The local Chibobo Basic School was the 1st school to benefit.



Tables & Chairs at Chibobo



The container arrives

2014 CHIBOBO UPDATE.

February 2014.

Help Ministries Project (HMP), Chibobo, Zambia.

Special points of interest:

- ☺ Chibobo website: www.chibobohmp.org
- ☺ A group from Melbourne & Bendigo is visiting Chibobo for 3 weeks in March to help build the Chibobo High School.
- ☺ Our 1st group of sponsored students are currently completing Grade 12.
- ☺ An 18yo girl from Serenje orphanage is being sponsored to Australia to have her leg lengthened.

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Student Sponsorship—A Chibobo Success Story

At Chibobo, many children do not have the opportunity to continue their education beyond Grade 9. It is doubly hard for orphans, as they do not have the support needed to pay for school fees. Most orphanages in Zambia 'wean' the children out at the end of Grade 8. In reality, this usually means a life of poverty. In 2011, the decision was made that the HMP orphans would be given the chance to continue their education to Grade 12. We were overwhelmed with offers of support, allowing not only the HMP children but also other orphans from the Chibobo community to be sponsored to Boarding School. The selected stu-

dents have been working hard with their studies, often despite a lack of resources and separation from their community. Many have become leaders in their schools, and only 1 of the 24 students who commenced their extra studies has not continued. Our manager, Staivous, has outlined how the student sponsorship is having a positive impact on the other children at the orphanage and in the Chibobo community. The Head Teacher of the Basic School commented how the HMP children were committed to their studies and disciplined, which is a great commendation.

I have had the privilege of spending time with most of the sponsored children over the past couple of years and have found them to be a delightful, hard working group.



Some of the sponsored students ready to return to school in July 2013.

Reagan Tayali ~ A story of hope.

Reagan Tayali is one of the students being sponsored to Boarding School, and his story is one of inspiration and hope. Reagan is now 23yo. In 2006 he initially commenced his Grade 10 studies. However, due to the death of his remaining parent, he needed to leave school to look after his brothers and sisters. He made & sold charcoal to make ends meet. Reagan was chosen for sponsorship in 2012, and cried when given the news that he could return to school. Due to the length of time between starting Grade 10 and recommencing, he needed to get spe-

cial Government permission, which was difficult. In August 2012 Reagan's Chibobo home burnt down, and again his future looked bleak. However, our Australian friends rallied when they heard of his plight and we were able to send funds for his house to be rebuilt. I had the joy of being shown his new house when I visited in 2013. In recent times Reagan's elder sister, Mary, had been quite ill and recently passed away. HMP helped to cover the burial expenses, as the family did not have the funds. Reagan is doing very well at school. Last year, in Grade 11, he

needed to sit some of his Grade 12 exams, even though he hadn't covered all of the material. He passed with very high marks, and Staivous is confident that he will finish Grade 12 this year with high marks. He wants to be an electrical engineer, and has the ability to pursue his dreams if the funds can be found to sponsor him beyond Grade 12. Reagan is an example of the hope that



Some sad news, and hope for a new future...

We recently heard of the death of a 15 year old girl from the Chibobo Community, and it brought home how precious life is in this remote rural community. The girl was a double orphan who headed up her household. She had contracted malaria, but had not gone to the clinic for help until it was too late. She was one of over 250 orphans in the Chibobo community who was being supported by HMP's work.

In October last year the Serenje orphanage asked for our help in applying to the Children First Foundation in Australia to help one of its children. Dorcas is 18yo and a double orphan, and she has one very short leg. We have recently heard that Children First have accepted Dorcas' application and she should be coming to Australia in mid 2014 for life changing surgery. The road ahead will be tough, with much surgery and rehabilitation,

but she will hopefully be able to return home with a brighter future in front of her. We look forward to helping Dorcas during her stay in Australia.



Dorcas Kalunga

Chibobo Health Post serves the sick & needy.

The Chibobo Health Post opened in May 2012, funded by Australian sponsors. It is staffed with a medical officer and community health worker. The Zambian government staffs the post and provides the medical care for free.

The motto for the Health Post is to 'Provide equity of access to cost effective health care as close to the family as possible'. Before the clinic opened many local people had no access to even the most basic health care.

The clinic sees a staggering number of patients each month. During the peak malaria season of January & February up to 1800 people per

month are treated for malaria and 750 for respiratory tract infections—all by one clinic officer.

The Chibobo community now has access to the ambulance from Serenje hospital when someone is seriously sick or injured, and health education in the community has increased.

During the 2013 visit by Overnewton Patricia, one of our sponsored students, became very ill. Mr Robbie, the clinic officer, was able to treat her for pneumonia and malaria, and she was able to return to boarding school before we departed.

The Zambian government is planning to expand the clinic in the coming years, when funds allow.



Chibobo Health Post.



Clinic Officer, Mr Robbie, treats Patricia at HMP.

How can you help?

There are many ways that you can help our friends at Chibobo.

1. Making a regular donation. Our work at Chibobo is made easier if we know the funding base from which to make plans.

Donations can be made to Overnewton College. Contact Mike Lampard (mike.lampard@overnewton.vic.edu.au) or Joanne Henderson (joanne.henderson@overnewton.vic.edu.au)

2. Hold a fundraising event to assist our work at Chibobo. Many people use their skills and talents to raise funds. Every little bit helps.

3. Sponsor a Chibobo orphan. We are aiming to increase the number of orphans catered for at the HMP orphanage from 70 to 100 in the coming years. It costs \$40 per month to sponsor an orphan. This can be done via Overnewton or online via Opportunity

to Do (www.o2d.org)

4. Spread the word. Let others know what we are doing.

5. Pray for the work at Chibobo (see below).

Every donation helps the people of Chibobo. 100% of funds are sent to help our friends, with no administration fees.



Chibobo Prayer Points.



The Chibobo community value our prayers and support.

Some of the areas that you may wish to consider for prayer:

- Pray for Staivous Mulumba as he leads the community. He has recently suffered a bout of malaria. Please pray for his health and wisdom in leadership.
- The Chibobo High School project—for extra funds to complete Stage 1, for the students who will attend the school.
- The Australian work team that will spend 3 weeks in March assisting with the construction of the High School. Pray for their safety, their interactions with, and understanding of, the Chibobo community and for success with their building tasks.
- The leadership of HMP—a lot of work is expected from a few people, especially Staivous. Pray for wisdom, good time management and the ability to complete the tasks they undertake.
- Pray for the 23 sponsored students at Boarding School, especially for those undertaking Grade 12. Give thanks for the sponsors who are giving them the opportunity to finish their schooling and for dedication to their studies this year.
- Give thanks for God's many blessings on this community, and for His continued guidance and strength.

For more information on our work at Chibobo:

contact Mike Lampard:
mike.lampard@overnewton.vic.edu.au



Staivous Junior, 2nd child to HMP Director, Staivous Mulumba & wife Memory and sister to Emmah. Born in July 2013.

OVERNEWTON'S 2013 VISIT TO CHIBOBO.

A team from Overnewton College visited Chibobo in June/July. Their main project was the rendering and painting of the main buildings at Help Ministries Project. The group of 15 included Senior School students, staff, parents and Old Collegians.

The group was able to meet most of the students being sponsored to boarding school and got to visit them in their schools. The team attended worship at a variety of local Churches, helped at the Basic School and visited the Chibobo Clinic.

Uniforms, clothing and donated goods were distributed during the time at Chibobo and were gratefully received.

Many hours of fun and laughter were had playing endless games of soccer and dancing with the orphans.

Of course, the friendships that were established, and the understanding of the community gained, will always be a lasting memory of any trip to Chibobo.



2013 Overnewton team with the banner celebrating our 10 years helping Chibobo



Some of the older boys dressed in new clothes taken across by the 2013 team.



Chibobo Basic School, with a new fence.

OUT AND ABOUT IN CHIBOBO.



The HMP leadership—Mr July Ngosa, Jacyntha Mulolani (secretary) and Director, Staivous Mulumba.



The friendships made at Chibobo are special. Candace with one of the HMP children, with a soccer game underway in the background



Sunrise at Chibobo, casting shadows through the cooking hut.