

# Education for Life

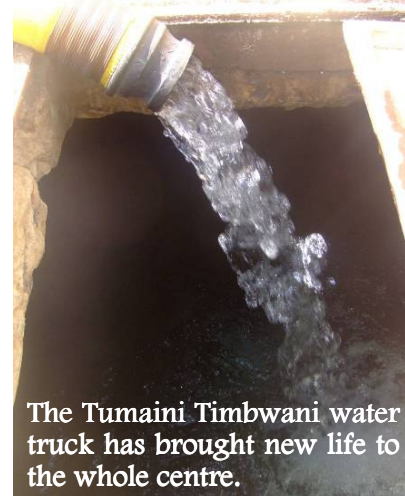
Food for thought! May 2009

"Gratitude, happiness and contentment" - it's something we all look for in our families, friendships, social lives and work places. One thing we've learned is that many times we've made the mistake of waiting for the feeling. Through hardship, sickness and troubles it's hard to have a nice feeling; it just isn't there! We've learned that we have to make the choice to be thankful; be happy and content with what we have; from that point we can begin to resolve problems and issues - it's a hard struggle but when you make the choice and follow it through with action, you begin to feel it later. We want to say a huge THANK YOU because we know how difficult life is becoming all over the world and yet so many people have given a lot, in financial support and time, helping our work in Mombasa to continue growing. If it were possible to bring you all here to show you what your support is doing we would; hopefully many of you will see in this year's DVD - You Raise Me Up. Thank you!

Thank you for giving to "Give a Smile for Christmas" We managed to provide all students in school with a new T-shirt. I hope you can see the smiles on the photograph!



Young people and children are very excited because we have some Kenyan volunteers with us at Tumaini Family Church for three months. They'll work in the village training older youth to run programmes for their peers and younger children; give Bible training; help in guidance and counselling; train dancing and singing groups and generally help out in school and church where they're able. Some of you who bought our CD produced by "Pressing On" last summer may remember artists Prince Ris, Brayo G and Bamba 50 - they are the young people who have given their time to work with us. These guys are seriously COOL and are great fun to be around - the only problem is our kids and young people won't want to let them leave!



The Tumaini Timbwani water truck has brought new life to the whole centre.

In our last newsletter we were able to show you the new truck but now I can really share with you how it has helped us to survive through the dry season. Last year we spent £2,014 on buying water over a three month period, compared to £818 this year over the same period. With the huge drops in our exchange rate, this difference has gone a long way towards keeping Tumaini alive and watered!

**FAB FUNDRAISERS** In the last letter we told you about 2 young ladies who'd run marathons and jumped out of aeroplanes. This year, Greg Clark ran in the Reading ½ Marathon raising £280, used towards our lunch programme, finishing with a time of 1 hour 43 minutes. Great job Greg! The summer's just around the corner - a great time for events; if you have any ideas or want any ideas please let us know.

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**The Wall is on the way up.** At the end of last year an acre of land next to our school was donated to us by a businessman in Mombasa. The transfer was arranged by our advocate who donates his time to the school and we received the title deed in our name at the end of February. Immediately, we made plans to put up a boundary wall but were stopped by 'land grabbers' who had already subdivided the plot and sold it to a number of different people. Without going into too much detail, this has taken until now to resolve and even as I'm writing this there are still issues being dealt with. There are two houses at the top of the plot that were built before we received the transfer in our name, we have organised a lease agreement with those people for the sake of peace. Our plan is that the main area of the plot be used as a sports area for the school children; we've really outgrown all our existing areas. At the road side there is space to build a big house which we will use as a half way house for youngsters from the children's home who have completed school and are ready to live independently. We have already had a substantial donation from a church in Canada to begin this building and we're really excited about it because it's happening at just the right time. Over the next year or two we'll have a number of young ladies ready to move in and it's great to know that there'll be a place for them to live independently, but safely. Thank you so much for all of you who've been praying for us throughout this situation; unfortunately we can't always speak about the details of what is actually happening but please continue praying and know that God is listening to your prayers and we are so grateful for your partnership. Here's a glimpse of what's happening now!



Thank you for sponsoring many of our children. We had a great response to help our Class 1 this year. We continually need to assess the allocation of sponsorship and prioritise areas of need. Due to massive increases in food prices we've decided that, at least for a period of time, we should remove shoes and bags from our sponsorship provision. Many people have generously given extra to help us but it's becoming increasingly difficult to provide the same as in previous years and we don't want to keep asking for more money from sponsors. We hope you understand the need for this but please, if you have any questions, feel free to ask.

Since the end of last year the children's leader in Tumaini Family Church has been teaching the youngsters the reality of a relationship with God. Many of them were really interested and wanted to make their commitment public. On 26<sup>th</sup> April, 38 people were baptised, 3 older people and the rest teens and early twenties. It was a fantastic day, there was a lot of singing, a lot of dancing and then after the baptisms many people jumped in the water to swim and have fun.



## RAIN MAN FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEMS



We have recently heard about this fire fighting equipment. In our area there are no facilities for putting out fire. There is a fire service in Mombasa but to get to us they have to cross a ferry and could not reach us in time. This system can be inserted into a water tank; it's been developed for high pressure and can be operating in minutes. The unit has a 30 metre rubberised hose and delivers water as spray or a jet. If you know anything about these systems please let us know. If it's good, we'd like to raise funds to buy one for Tumaini.

## JOSEPH AND HIS AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT

In July, students and teachers from Primary and High School will be performing the musical. Maureen, together with some talented teachers; Prince Ris, Brayo and other visitors are working hard to train the students and everybody is having a lot of fun. We plan to make a DVD, so you can see what a great time both children and staff had, not just one the day but during the many hours of rehearsals.

Thank you again for all your love  
and support. God bless you!  
Love Glyn, Jane & Maureen

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