

# JACOB'S WELL APPEAL

Registered Charity Number 515235

## Summer Newsletter 2014

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*Mother sows, children recline!*

Change is definitely the in word for this summer newsletter. Many sections of the work of our charity are in the middle of big changes and I hope now to be able to tell you about some of them. There are so many that it is hard to know where to begin. A big one for us was the news that we cannot continue to send medicines abroad unless we acquire a wholesale distribution authorisation from the MHRA, the regulators. This we are now trying to achieve as supplying needed medicines to Africa, Asia and parts of Eastern Europe is what we mainly have done for the last 32 years. Our work areas have needed a new build in the warehouse section and many changes in procedures in all areas of our work. We are desperate to achieve this level of perfection and we hope that soon we will look a bit more like Boots! The license is costly and so is the building work but we hope to achieve this before the year is out. Our volunteer workforce have been patient and we hope they will cope with the modernisation.

Our staff are also about to change. This summer Karen has decided to leave and Bridget has been appointed. and will start in August. We really do welcome her and hope she will be happy with her new job. Karen has been with us for just a year but Mike Greatorex is also wanting to retire before

Christmas and he has been with us for 20 years and we shall really miss him and all the knowledge that he has in his head so he has agreed to stay alongside Bridget for a while to help her to gain new skills and learn all his coping mechanisms.! Our office is always busy.

In Romania our work is also changing. Two volunteers, Tracy our very new Beverley shop manger and Betty, our trustee who is Kenyan by birth, have just started the work of trying to revitalise the Siret Rehab shop so that we can make a new start to afford the Day Centre work which will link us with the Psychiatric Hospital. They need this work for their overflowing patients and many of them were left behind when the children's hospital closed. There is a new team of workers now and we hope that the change from the past regime will be replaced with a new spirit welcoming all our needy customers who do seem keen to support us. Our aim is to see this Rehab Unit again teaming with young people whose lives we can enrich. It is to start with the new team in the shop and I am grateful to staff who are now there to support the team of Jacob's Well Appeal Romania trustees. Yes, it is another big change.



*Another Tractor for Northern Ghana*

Since Christmas we have sent 3 more containers to Ghana, one to the hospital number 37, a military hospital in Accra who have the privilege of having their own distribution authorisation from their regulators and this clearance and distribution was accomplished very speedily and well. We now can only distribute medicines through the Ministry of Health to big Regional hospitals who must, like us, have the same standards for distribution. We can no longer supply the more remote small hospitals and clinics of the Upper West and Northern Regions so we are now working with the Wa Hospital and Tamale hospital. We sent two containers to Wa in March and those have now been distributed. Sandra, our leader in Ghana, will be able to visit the hospitals and clinics that have so far received our supplies. At present she is very busy with the agriculture project as it is peak time for this and growing food is a major necessity.



Medical supplies received by the Municipal Mayor (a) and the Municipal Health Officer (b).

In mid July a container for Burkina Faso has left our warehouse and it should reach Bobo Dioulaso by mid August by which time Hinrik and Gully will have finished their summer holiday back in Iceland and returned to take charge of it all. The work there has progressed by leaps and bounds and we shall send them a small team of volunteers at the end of October again to help with the distribution. The big changes haven't yet caught up with this area and we are still able to send them supplies. Sewing machines, especially hand and treadle ones, are very needed for the new sewing school and gifts of thread and needles are

very welcome.

You will be happy to hear that the container for Kenya we sent to the Mumais region for the Nasio Trust made it safely out of Mombasa port by the skin of its teeth just before Christmas and was very well received. There was much joy and dancing for this remote area where there is an orphanage for 300 children and a clinic for this area. Supplies have been sent out to the local St Mary's Hospital and many needed items to the disabled in their community. We hope to be able to repeat this achievement later this year. We thank God it was safely delivered as it was our first supply to Kenya. Betty went to monitor this one for us and was very happy. Our second container to the Philippines left us in February and also made it safely. This one had some precious building supplies as well as medicines and we hope that they will have been put to good use to house some of the many homeless people in the Hernani area. The mayor was prominent in helping with the distribution of the medicines to needy clinics in their area.

This week we have a big celebration as Samuel, who has managed our Jacob's Well Christian bookshop and charity section, also has decided to make a big change in his life and is to marry Beverley Wong. Then they will move to York where Samuel will join Christ's Church as a parish assistant and Beverley hopes to start a degree course at University. He has made a big difference and at last the Christian book section is in profit. We send them both away with heartfelt love and thanks and we wish that God will greatly bless them.

Our thanks also go to John and his many volunteers who have taken on the task of modernising us. The web site has changed a lot and I can assure you that there will be many more changes to come. The web site is now [www.jacobswellappeal.org](http://www.jacobswellappeal.org). The good news is that the changes haven't yet swept us oldies completely away and we pray that we will be able to keep up the pace and survive the changes- God willing!

*Beryl Beynon, Medical Director*