

# JACOB'S WELL APPEAL

Registered Charity Number 515235

## Summer Newsletter 2012

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*Sandra, our project leader and Ruby from VSO enjoying pineapple!*

“What summer”- you might be asking. It is the wettest June for a long time This week the Wimbledon roof dome has been working overtime to keep the grass dry! However in Ghana they were very happy when the rains came in the spring and they were very thankful to be able to plough their land and plant seed for this year’s harvest - so necessary for survival.

The seed bank work was very good last year and enough seed was left for this year’s sowing. A new vegetable project has started, with some funding help from a local trust, in an area where some irrigation is possible. There was help with some funding for essential fencing to keep animal predators out. One group who have asked for help grow pineapples and I have a lovely picture (above) of Sandra and Ruby with a pineapple lolly each! It has been very helpful to supply some tractors to these small groups to help the women with the ploughing and the carrying of the seeds and harvest products.

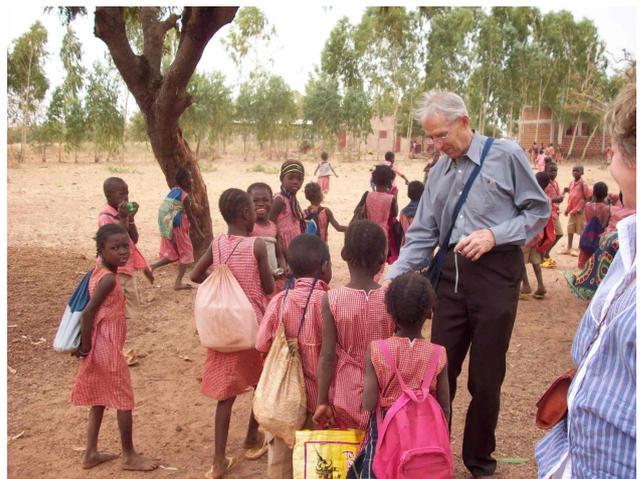
Water is a very blessed gift to the Queen of Peace School in Nadowli. We have managed to fund the installation of another bore hole for the school this spring and we hope to add a water storage tank to supply the toilet block also. So far it has all been carried in bowls by the girls

on their heads! Sister Justina has asked us to say thanks to the donors who have helped to fund it.

One container arrived in Tema Port in July for distribution in Accra. We have sent some kidney machines to help with dialysis and the Ministry of Health will help us to achieve the distribution of these and the rest of our medical aid to hospitals and clinics in the capital. Sandra is hoping to get this through shortly, and

waiting for her after this is one for Nadowli. God has blessed our work in Ghana and with the help of JW Ghana and their trustees our work there is thriving.

Burkina Faso’s problems are increasing rapidly since the coup in Mali when people fled for their lives taking refuge over the border. There are 50,000 of them in camps with very little aid. A group of the Assemblies of God churches from Bobo Dioulasso got together and sent 8 tons of maize and reported back that they were desperate for more help. They have 11,000 children and not one school. They asked for tents to start some teaching. Henrik and Gully, leaders of ABC



*Our former chairman with the children at ABC*

Charity in Bobo with whom we work, passed on this message to us, so a container is now at sea and should be there by August with some useful tents.



*Loading the tractor & trailer for ABC School*

The school in Bobo is growing every year and they hope to be able to start a trade school for some of the older children to help them into employment. A group of our Jacob's Well volunteers will be joining some King's Church workers for a visit in November to fix water tanks for the toilet block at this school. They have just got their first bore hole this year! We have sent them a tractor and trailer to help them to grow more food as they try to give all the children one meal a day at school. They also now have a nurse led clinic for the school.

In May one container of medical aid was safely delivered to the Lady Dufferin Maternity Hospital in Karachi. They needed some more equipment and furniture for their wards. It is a very busy hospital in the heart of Karachi delivering many babies every year. It is close to the port and the delivery went well. We hope to be able to continue our work with this hospital in the future.

Our problems in Afghanistan are still continuing. After the last container's problems we did not rush to send another and in the meantime the Americans unfortunately managed to drop a bomb on the border territories that killed 27 Pakistani soldiers and Pakistan closed their ports to Afghan aid. All other routes have been looked at but are impossible for our loads. We decided to try to fly in a small consignment of the most useful medicines and we submitted our paperwork but more than half of this was rejected by the authorities. We ended up sending only nine boxes and this took three months to achieve. They didn't fly out until April. We

needed to deliver something to keep our precious registration. Dr Farid came to visit us this year just before Christmas and he was able to tell us how much of a struggle it is to do anything in Kabul. It is very dangerous for them all and they wanted to thank us for still trying. The hospitals still need our help.

In February we sent another very full load of aid to Romania in Titi's truck and in March we followed it with a load to Moldova. Just now we are having problems to get any medicine or medical equipment into Romania as their Ministry of Health have not given permission for the following load. The rules have changed and permission must be given for each load before it leaves us. This will bring much hardship to the people in the Siret locality who have benefited from our help. It is costly to send back any load and it may not be justified if all the high value medicines are disallowed. This is a big hurdle for us as it also affects our work in Moldova. They are following Romania's lead. The hurdles get bigger all the time but in the spirit of Jacob's Well we will continue to try!

Our research team are busy with more Lyme disease patients asking for help. To improve the diagnosis is still our main aim. The networking of Jacob's Well Appeal and the Well-One Clinic with the use of the King's Church small hall for our twice a week group treatment sessions has been good. We are a team of three volunteers giving our time and expertise to this work and we are very happy to have the research facility that Jacob's Well Appeal provides. Most of the funds we have are spent looking for better tests to help diagnosis and to find better treatments. The tics are thriving but the patients struggle!

My husband, Peter, has now retired as chairman and Mike Adams, our solicitor, has taken over. We welcome you Mike with all our hearts. We haven't let Peter retire from his warehouse duties as yet but his hours have reduced, thanks to the trustees for taking on our new trainee warehouseman, Anthony, for three days a week. He has passed his fork list test and has fitted in to the hurly burly of the job very well.

Lastly I want to say thanks to all our volunteers and donors who are there endlessly to help and keep everything ticking over, and to God for his guidance and blessings to us.

*Beryl Beynon, Medical Director*