

Autumn News letter 2009

Dear Supporters,

Thank you for your continued support of Food for the Hungry across the world. As the new season approaches I would like to update you on some significant changes in our organisation. Doug and Jackie Wakeling left Food for the Hungry this summer after working as an amazing duo that further developed and operated our UK office for nearly 10 years. Without them the UK organisation would not have existed today and we remain indebted to their compassion for the poor and their passion to do something about the poverty in the world.

In future please now address all correspondence to the contact details found at the bottom of on this news letter. I know you will all join me in thanking Doug and Jackie for all they have done and wishing them well in the new phase of their journey.

I would also ask you all to join with me in thanking all the Board members who have stepped down this year Bob Plumtre (Chairman), Gill Kelly and Rosemary Duke for their invaluable contribution to the governance, support and direction of the organisation. Simon Herbert will step up as Chairman and Peter Mawditt, Steve Canham and Nigel Bicknell have all joined the Board as trustees. Their first meeting was in October.

Apart from saying goodbye to many valued members of the team over the last few months we have also seen encouraging developments and challenges across our different projects, here is a brief update for you.

Christmas Cards handmade in Rwanda are now available, information on the enterprise set up by Tom MacGregor is given in the enclosed leaflet together with an order form, and all proceeds for the cards (excluding postage) will go to Rwanda.

Maisha Bora, Kenya. community development has made good progress in the last 6 months; see the latest report on our website. We are now looking to sponsor 50 desperately poor children in this community as well as raise more funds for the programme, contact David Finlay if you can support in anyway. dfinaly@fh.org

El Alto, Bolivia. The project started in the El Alto slums in October after a generous donation, you can find details of this project on our website, Caroline Burns now has a major role in the project both in Bolivia and the UK and you can expect to hear from her in detail in the New Year. The challenge is now to raise the funds for the project to become sustainable beyond the first year. cburns@fh.org

Mwumba Burundi. The coffee washing project headed up by Steve Stordy has now almost completed its second year; plans are in place to significantly expand the project in the coming years. The community project also got off to a great start with support from the Wadhurst community in Kent who have funded a computer connection with the secondary school and participatory workshops will be run with the community before the end of the year.

Yepa Uganda. The fragile peace continues in Northern Uganda allowing the start up of the project to encourage people out of the internal displacement camps back to their communities. We have now employed a local manager to work with the community as they raise themselves out of the poverty which they are returning to.

Team visits. Over our summer a team from Gillingham and a team from Huntington went to different communities in Uganda and a team from Highfield in Southampton went to Nkunga Kenya. Without exception, people found the experience either life changing or exceptionally rewarding. I would also like to thank Lindsey Fraser, who over the past few years with Jackie and Doug prepared and supported the team visits; she has also stepped down this summer.

Women of Action. Our network connecting women across the UK and Bangladesh is gaining momentum as many UK women sign up to support our learning and savings groups in Bangladesh. These groups are helping disadvantaged women and their families to develop skills and confidence to escape from poverty. In November Charlene Hayden will be leading a team of 8 women to visit Bangladesh and some of the women's groups in Bogra and Dhaka. Charlene and the team would be very happy to share their experiences on their return if you would like to find out more about this exciting initiative led by John and Kate Marsden in Bangladesh please visit: www.womenofaction.co.uk.

47 Burgess Wood Road South
Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 1EL.
tel: 01494674898 mob: 07804979185
pcornelius@fhi.net www.uk.fhi.net

Seconded International Staff. The Snell family returned in the summer after 18 rewarding and challenging months in Bolivia. Dave Burton from Coventry left for Bangladesh in October to start a 3 year assignment as Communications Officer, joining Joel Blacker and John and Kate Marsden. Caroline, Isabela and Tom extended their contracts in the summer after completing initial terms, Steve and Ann Stordy are now in their third and final year in Burundi, while the Moulding family will be returning in November from Bolivia for their mid term home visit and rest. Moira continues to be overawed by the beauty and challenges of Ethiopia.

Costs. To keep our costs to a minimum I have not included a stamped return address envelope or a separate reply slip. If you would like any information referred to in this letter by post rather than going to our website then just tick the appropriate boxes below and return the tear off slip with your address to, **47 Burgess Wood Road South, Beaconsfield, Bucks , HP9 1EL** and we will be very happy to send it to you. If you would prefer to receive future newsletters by e mail please provide your e mail address below, if you would prefer to continue to receive a hard copy of our news letter in the future you need take no action.

I have just returned from attending the FH Asia regional conference and have heard first hand stories of radical discipleship, people who have put their calling from God in front of everything else; the results are amazing transformation in families, leaders and churches. The light of Jesus shines brilliantly through these people and as a result lives are changed. I met a group of people who do not love people to make them Christians; they love people because they understand how much Jesus loves them, they just have to share that love, and in so doing their light shines ever brighter, the result is changed lives.

I would like to thank all our supporters for the contributions you have made to making our work possible and as we start to think about celebrating the birth of Jesus I would ask you all to take 5 minutes to pray for the people in the front line who will be shining brightly but missing family and friends, they value your prayers more than anything else. If we want our lights to shine in the darkness of the UK this Christmas all we need to do is to "Spend ourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed" Is 58:10

Yours sincerely,



For FH UK

Tear off above this line

Subject you would like more information on		Tick
Maisha Bora, Kenya		
El Alto, Bolivia		
Yepa Uganda		
Mwumba Burundi		
Women of Action, Bangladesh		
Seconded International staff opportunities		
Other requests		
Please send future news letters by e mail (please provide your e mail address below)		
Please remove me from your mailing list		
I would like to talk to someone about a Team visit (please provide telephone number below)		
I would like to talk to someone about a personal visit (please provide telephone number below)		
Please send me a form so I can make a regular donation to Food for the Hungry's work		
Please find a enclosed a cheque made payable to Food for the Hungry UK to support our work		
Please update my contact details as per the enclosed details		
E mail address		
Telephone number		
Postal address		