

SEED

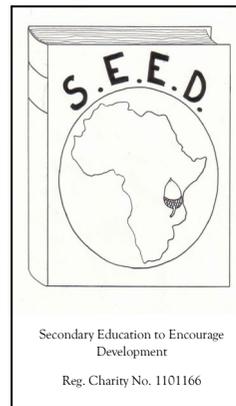
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→ Could you give a child a brighter future?

SEED (Charity number: 1101166) aims to:

- Provide education, board and lodgings for as long as each student is able to stay in secondary and tertiary education and offer vocational training if appropriate.
- Keep administrative costs down to an absolute minimum by using internet correspondence and volunteer workers to run the charity wherever possible.
- Improve opportunities for sustainable school development
- Facilitate correspondence between sponsors and students to enable friendships to prosper and bridge the cultural gap.



Issue 22
Sept 2015

SEED Newsletter

Secondary Education to Encourage Development

A word from the chairman....

It has been a year of change for SEED, with our UK team visiting Iringa in July and coming back with new ideas, for which I would like to thank them both very much.



Sadly, after four years working for us in Iringa. our Programme Manager, Deule, is not able to currently work with us.

However, we are delighted that Japheti Mbwilo, the first student SEED sponsored in 2003, is able to take on the reins temporarily for us. Japheti gained his degree in 2013 and has since been working in Iringa for TIGO (mobile phone company).

I hope you enjoy reading Mike and Robert's accounts of their visit to Iringa over the summer.

Emma Stapley

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Dates for your diary

A Safari Supper will be held to raise funds for SEED shortly. If you would like to be involved, please call or email

Mike Cresswell on 01885483964 / mike.cresswell@virgin.net or Julie Jenkins at julieann.jenkins@btinternet.com

We would love to know if you are holding any fund raising events for SEED.

We are always very grateful for donations for prizes for our bingo and fundraising evenings, as this helps us to raise even more on the night.

For more information about events please call Emma on 07767 411284

If you have fund raising ideas for SEED please do let us know!

Our next AGM will be held on Friday 29th January. We would love to welcome you to the meeting. If you would like details of where to meet please phone Emma on 07767 411284

We would like to thank and send our congratulations to Mr and Mrs Haywood for their kind donation in lieu of gifts for their Golden Wedding Anniversary

Ploughman's Lunch at Caris Croft

On Sunday 16th August a fabulous ploughman's lunch was hosted by Neil and Christine Walters at their home, Caris Croft, raising £500 for SEED. Many thanks to Christine and her hard working team!



FIRST IMPRESSIONS by Mike Cresswell

Although this was not my first visit to Tanzania it was my first visit to Iringa and meeting with some of those who had been involved with SEED on the ground as it were for a number of years. It was around 6am that the taxi picked up Robert and I from the Kurasini Lutheran Hostel in Dar es Salaam where we had been staying since arriving in Tanzania. We were to meet Stevo who had taken time off work to escort us during our visits to the schools and interviewing the students SEED (that is you) are supporting. It was a long dusty, bumpy journey to Iringa passing through some of the most beautiful countryside including Makumi National Park on the way. Our accommodation whilst in Iringa was at the Lutheran Centre where we were welcomed by very friendly and helpful staff. After a good night's sleep we met up with Sampson at the SEED office to collect bits and pieces needed for our first visit which was to be to Kiwele Secondary School about one hours drive from Iringa, and with a staff of 96 which includes 40 teachers. Of the 750 pupils registered here SEED are sponsoring 17 and after a short meeting with the Head Teacher we were given the opportunity to spend time with these students and discuss their progress and the kind of things they needed to improve their learning. The students appeared to be very appreciative of our continued support of their education and this is noticeable in the cards which they have written to their sponsors. The one thing that is so apparent whenever you visit a school in Tanzania is the joy on the faces of the pupils and the friendliness they show.

Over the weekend plans were made for some of our students who are at university, college or other educational establishments to come and meet with us in Iringa. 12 students were able to join us including Japhet who was the very first SEED student and who had recently finished his studies at Dodoma University. The opportunity to talk to students who had either completed or nearly completed their education and benefited from SEED's support was quite special, their appreciation and acknowledgement that without YOUR sponsorship and support this would never have happened was quite evident. One of the students suggested that those who had benefitted from SEED should look at the idea of establishing some kind of fund into which they could contribute so as to enable more students to be helped.



Monday saw us set off to visit Kalenga and Idodi Secondary Schools, we had now lost Stevo as he had had to return to Dar. Fortunately Sampson and Japhet agreed to come with us. Our first stop Kalenga where we met with Head teacher Mr Kachenje. Of the 652 students here 108 were boarders, SEED is sponsoring 16

pupils here and again we were able to meet them and discuss needs. Then onto Idodi where again we had a short meeting with the head before being given the opportunity to talk with the 22 SEED sponsored students. We were shown the work being carried out to refurbish the dormitories following the fire in March, there was a shortage of beds but the school had recently felled a tree and were making their own structures.



There is no doubt that what SEED has achieved since its inauguration is quite outstanding, it has enabled students to have an education through secondary school and in some cases on to college or university. It must be acknowledged that with your support, as sponsors, there is a group of Tanzanians better prepared to go out and meet the pressures of life and to benefit not only themselves but the

community they come from. To have had the opportunity to meet with the students and to hear their ideas for the future is so encouraging and I sincerely hope that SEED will continue for many many years to provide the opportunity for more to receive an education.

Mike Cresswell

