

# GO CONGO

March 2010

## Friendly Visit

We are so looking forward to the visit of a very good friend from Gloucester who arrives mid March, for just under a month. We take our hats off to Fran who is petrified of spiders, who isn't a spring chicken and yet who is always eager to do something for the first time – this time she's venturing alone to the land of creepy crawlies! It will be great to have her with us and we hope that she'll be able to experience much of the culture of Congo and manage not to jump out of her skin too many times!

## TV Stars?

Two weeks ago we had the Head of the District come to our Centre, threatening to call in the Press to accuse us of not developing some of our land and of not keeping it clear of long grass, resulting in 3 rapes and 2 incidents of armed robbery (news to us)! They then added that if we paid them, they'd close their eyes to the situation! As you can imagine, this didn't sit well with us, but what would be the right thing to do – give in to corruption or allow the cameras in? Our local colleagues encouraged us that sometimes the right thing to do isn't always the wise thing to do. They know from experience that if the cameras were to come in we would have a riot on our hands! So, a compromise was reached, we paid for their transport to come to warn us (approx £4) and we've been working hard since then to clear the land in question. It's all looking very good.

## Lwamba Doctor

One of the Doctors who works at the mission hospital in Lwamba, Dr Ilunga, was involved in a motorcycle accident and requested air transport back to Lubumbashi for medical attention. We are thankful that his injuries are not major. The state of the roads

in the interior is very bad at the moment, making it difficult and dangerous to travel. However, the staff need to travel to get hold of medicines and provisions for use in the hospital. The junior Doctor who is left in charge was hoping to return to Lubumbashi for a well deserved break. It looks as though this will be out of the question for a while at least. It's very difficult for those working in the isolated parts of Congo, especially during the rainy season when the roads are virtually impassable.

## Please Help – but who?

Before we left UK, among other gifts, we were given an amount of money to help a needy child. The question is, who, out of so many needy people, do we help? With the history of mission in Congo and the idea that missionaries give money, we are approached regularly for help. This is a very difficult situation as it's vital that we don't make dependents of people but that we encourage them if possible to become self-sufficient. Nick has been considering this and finding ways to pass on skills and teach effective methods of production. After being here for 8 months, we have identified a family where the father works extremely hard to educate and feed his children but is unable to keep up with the necessary school fees, which increase from month to month. As you can imagine, this family is most grateful for the gift which has covered school fees for a term.

## Gift Pump

Where we live there is a windmill which used to provide water for the Centre Orchard. The fruit from the orchard is sold at a reduced rate to the local population, benefitting them as well as the Centre. Unfortunately the windmill has not been in use for a number of years, which means that during the dry season (which lasts at least 6 months) the water in the well beneath the windmill cannot be pumped to supply this area. We are very grateful to our home church, Elim Christian Centre, Cheltenham, for agreeing to fund an electric pump worth \$800 so that

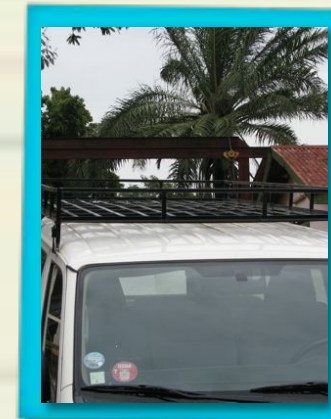
we can get this resource up and running again. The water from the windmill well can be pumped into a reservoir which would be used to water the fruit trees using a drip feed system, as well as vegetable beds which Nick hopes to develop with the help of local folk.

## Ongoing

We leave you with some photos of our ongoing work and thank you for your prayers, thoughts and gifts which help to enable us to continue.



Windmill project



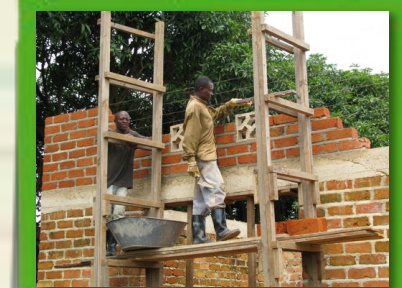
Roofrack constructed by us for another mission. One of the ways we are building skills & trying to encourage self-financing.



Walking home from school during the rainy season!

... And the walls continue to rise ...

Nick & Kym  
Delpport



Email: [kym.nick@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kym.nick@yahoo.co.uk)

All gifts towards our work in Congo should either • be marked "DELPORT" & sent to CAM, 355 Blackpool Rd, Preston, Lancs, PR2 3AB Charity No 1049246 or • be marked "25/MS3-DELPORT" & sent to Elim International Missions, De Walden Rd, West Malvern, WR14 4DF, Charity No 251549 (England) SC037754