

GO CONGO - APRIL 2010

HAPPY EASTER

It has been wonderful to have our friend Fran with us. She has been kept very busy since her arrival, experiencing many things for the first time & always ready & willing to join in & have a go despite the differences of culture, the terrible state of the roads, etc. It has been a good opportunity for us as well to visit some of the other projects supported by the Missions we work with. Below are some of the highlights during her stay, which will also give you an idea of the variety of projects supported here.



WINDMILL PROJECT

The Water Pump being installed in the Well

This was a delicate operation - if they dropped the pump in the process, there would be no way of getting it back!

- ▶ Besides the extra activities we've been involved with this month, the work at the Centre continues. The new house walls have been completed and are looking good. As the roof rafters are being created work continues as windows are installed and preparation takes place for electrics, plumbing, etc.
- ▶ As you can see, the water pump for the Windmill Project has been installed successfully and is now ready for use when the rainy season finishes and water availability is an issue.
- ▶ End of February is the financial year end for us, so Kym has been ensuring that all accounting matters are in hand, ready for an audit towards the end of April.
- ▶ Last weekend we were asked by our Swahili teacher to speak at his church which is within walking distance from our home. During the service the rain fell hard, pouring through the plastic roofing but we just sang louder while dodging the leaks, until it stopped again. We appreciate these opportunities to bring some encouragement to folk.
- ▶ At the end of another month, thank you for your involvement & encouragement in our lives.

First stop was the LIGHTHOUSE PROJECT based at the Centre where we stay. Here young girls & young mothers receive tuition in practical & academic subjects, enabling them to learn a skill to support themselves. We visited while the young ladies were in their sewing class & were shown the items they were in the process of making. Sewing machines had to be shared, approx 3 girls to a machine. So, with money Fran had raised in UK from a sponsored silence (a real sacrifice for her!) she bought 2 new manual sewing machines and presented them to the Project on the day they broke up for the Easter holidays.



Lighthouse Project with their new machines



Natural Beauty or Beast?

Together with Consolate Mutanda, a Congolese lady now living in UK but also currently visiting the Mission, we visited the local prison, travelling with trepidation along roads pitted with potholes & thick mud! There were over 1000 prisoners in a place which was built to accommodate 600. The Mission buys and delivers sacks of flour for the inmates, as well as supporting a local Pastor to visit and provide moral and spiritual support. This was an eye-opening experience for all of us who went along.



In the Prison Chapel



The roads to the Prison - no quick escape!

Today we went along to a Children's Club, attended by around 400 children, all taking part in various activities. Unlike in the UK, there are not many opportunities here for children to attend such events where they are given something to eat & drink as well as experience the care and attention of others. Tomorrow we'll be visiting children in hospital, trying to bring them some cheer, we'll update you next month.



School History Class Romans in Britain



Kids Club Crowd

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