

ChildWorld

SPRING 2008

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ChildFund
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TEACHING AND LEARNING IN ZAMBIA

Watching Mukupi School teacher Timothy Nshimbi explain to his class of Zambian school children that air has weight with only twigs and a margarine container left a lasting impression on New Zealand teacher Helen Chileshe.

"He had no scales to demonstrate with, so he made his own stuff just out of what he could find at home. What really struck me is how dedicated these teachers are," says Helen.

In April, seven Kiwi teachers accompanied by ChildFund's Sally Hewlett spent a week in Zambia as part of the ChildFund Global Schools Programme. The programme involves a two-way teaching and learning exchange with partner schools in developing countries to improve the quality of education.

Back in New Zealand, the teachers' task is to raise awareness and funds to improve training and resources for their partner schools so the Zambian teachers can put their learning into action.

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM THE TEACHERS' DIARY DURING THEIR WEEK IN ZAMBIA.

Saturday

Our intrepid teachers met with ChildFund Zambia staff and Lillian Kapula, Permanent Secretary for Zambia's Ministry of Education to learn about the challenges facing Zambia's education system.

"ChildFund Zambia's National Director Victor Koyi gave us an insight into ChildFund's role in helping promote quality education. He stressed the importance of improving teacher resources and infrastructure to ensure they are delivering quality education."

Helen Wilson, Rotorua Intermediate

Sunday

Taking time to explore local markets...

"We passed roadside stalls selling tiny packets of sugar, mealie-meal, kapenta, peanuts and sweets. The most heartbreaking aspect was the

number of small children "manning" the stalls and depending on them for their existence."

Helen Chileshe, Christ's College

Monday

A day of travelling to Mumbwa District and meetings...

"So far Zambia has impressed me as a country of people with potential, who are fiercely proud of their languages, culture and heritage, despite much harshness and adversity for many."

Lynne Hoare, Auckland

Tuesday

The teachers split into groups and went to three rural schools, Mukupi, Nangoma and Shimbizhi, where they met with their Zambian teaching partners.

"The main insight today was that regardless of materials, infrastructure and large class sizes, these schools persevere to achieve the best they can. Nangoma has excellent teachers doing their best with one text book, a stick of chalk, and four tables."

Vanessa Te Huia, Rotorua Intermediate

wednesday

For the next few days, the Kiwi teachers worked with their Zambian counterparts to teach classes.

"I was very impressed to see the respect the students have for themselves. Their refusal to sit on the ground so as not to dirty their uniforms reinforced what I have witnessed since being here. Despite what people here lack, they take pride in the lives they live, the things they do have, and the work that they do."

Laura Swan, Massey High School

ZAMBIA



Team at Zambian Ministry of Education Office

Thursday

"I'm amazed by the strength and determination that defines Shimbizhi. In the heat of the day, with flies buzzing, a desperate need for water and limited resources with which to teach, it would be so easy to just stop coming. Yet, I see children who believe in the possibility of better things, and arrive to school each day in search of the education they deserve."

Kate Findley, Reporoa College

Friday


The last day began with lessons and ended with goodbyes.

"I know I will never forget the resonating sound of the singing, the delightful smiles, the harrowing faces of sick, lost looking children, and the warmth with which we have been welcomed by staff and children alike."

Karlene Robottom, Mercury Bay Area School



Kiwi teacher Karlene and student's at Shimbizhi School

Our Kiwi teachers are fundraising in their schools and communities to provide teacher training and resources so greatly needed by Shimbizhi, Nangoma and Mukupi schools. If you would like to support the teachers' fundraising efforts or would like information on how to get involved in the 2009 programme, please phone **Sally Hewlett on 09 366 2278** or **email her at sally@childfund.org.nz** 

FOR THE FULL UNEDITED VERSIONS OF THE TEACHERS' EXPERIENCES, INCLUDING THE ZAMBIAN TEACHERS' VISIT TO NEW ZEALAND IN AUGUST, GO TO WWW.CHILDFUNDGLOBALSCHOOLS.BLOGSPOT.COM

YOUR LETTER'S JOURNEY

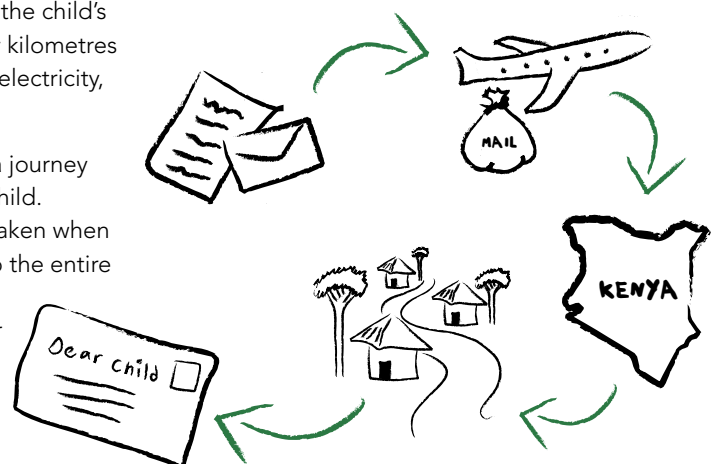
The letters and cards you write to your sponsored children and the ones you receive in return help foster a unique relationship that's an important part of the sponsorship experience. In fact, ChildFund offices around the world receive over 2,000 letters a month, demonstrating how popular this communication method still is.

Your letters and cards can take up to six weeks to arrive at their destination from the time you post them. First they go to the National Office of the country your sponsored child lives in. There they are sorted into the language each one is written in and given to volunteers to translate into your sponsored child's language.

The letters are sent to the Project Office where, in order to deliver your letter, a staff member drives or cycles over dirt roads to the often remote community where your sponsored child lives. Once your letter arrives in the community, a volunteer often walks it to the child's house — sometimes many kilometres where there are no roads, electricity, phones or running water.

Your letter goes on quite a journey to reach your sponsored child. A similar journey is undertaken when your child writes to you, so the entire process of writing and receiving a reply from your sponsored child can take up to four months.

Sponsored children treasure the letters they receive from you, often keeping each letter and card in a place of honour in their home. In return, their response is a simple yet important way for the children to share their lives with you.





GIFTS THAT GROW ALL OVER THE WORLD



OUR CATALOGUE ITEMS CONTINUE TO BE HIGHLY POPULAR WITH NEW ZEALANDERS WANTING TO GIVE THEIR LOVED ONES SOMETHING SPECIAL AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT THE SAME TIME.

When ChildFund New Zealand's Carol Morphey was in Sri Lanka earlier this year, she saw how popular these gifts are with families in need, too. Carol was visiting the Saviya Project when a truck arrived to deliver baby chickens.



Sri Lankan families pick up baby chickens.



Education on poultry farming



"I watched as boxes of little yellow chicks were given to grateful families. The families had already received training on how to care for them, and had even built pens for them," says Carol.

Each family received 25 baby chicks that will grow into healthy chickens able to produce up to 550 eggs a month. These eggs will be a good source of nutrition, especially protein, which children need for normal healthy growth. Most children in low income families suffer from malnutrition resulting in more illnesses and poor development. Not only will these eggs be eaten by the family, they will be sold at market to provide an income.



POPULAR WITH BUSINESSES

Gifts that Grow have also proven popular with Kiwi businesses who want to give their clients and employees that feel-good factor at Christmas. For the past two years New Zealand based fashion house High Society has passed on its good fortune by buying Gifts that Grow in lieu of traditional corporate gifts for its retailers and suppliers. In 2006, the company bought 25 sewing machines to help families in India earn an income.

High Society's Desiree Keown says the overwhelmingly positive response from retailers they received in 2006 influenced their decision to purchase school uniforms and school scholarships in 2007, but the main reason was still to contribute to others less fortunate.

"Everything is so consumer based, especially the fashion industry. So we wanted to continue to make a difference where it really matters. ChildFund's Gift that Grow catalogue had a particularly fitting gift for us: school uniforms," says Desiree.

The Top Five Christmas 2007 Biggest Sellers

1. Chicken farm \$26
2. Pair of goats \$60
3. 25 baby chickens \$46
4. Enriched food \$14
5. Book pack \$24

www.childfund.org.nz/catalogue
Purchase a Gift that Grows for any occasion.



Thank you to everyone who bought a gift last year. You have helped to make an amazing difference in the lives of children and their families living in poverty. **CF**

REPORTING

BACK



Emali schoolchildren

If you have donated to an appeal in the past 18 months, you may already have received a report on how your donation has helped children in crisis. Here we highlight selected achievements of two of our largest appeals, and update you on the Kenya Crisis.

Thank you to everyone who has helped us achieve so much and made the world a better place for the children in these projects.



EMALI

Three years ago, the small town of Emali in southern Kenya was struggling with the devastating impact of HIV and AIDS and prolonged drought. Two ongoing projects funded by caring Kiwis have changed the lives of people in Emali.

The **Weaving the Safety Net Project** focuses on helping orphaned and vulnerable children and youth affected by HIV and AIDS through support, training and education and HIV prevention.

Achievements so far include:

- 100 orphans given school materials and uniforms.
- 17 Early Childhood Development (ECD) caregivers trained.
- 2 ECD classrooms established.
- 32 adults trained on child rights and protection, resulting in 5 schools establishing child rights clubs.
- 235 youth received business training and resources to start their businesses, including tailoring, printing/secretarial and raising animals.
- 2,731 youth reached through HIV and AIDS awareness and prevention training and campaigns.



School breaks for lunch

The **Safe Water Project** in Emali focuses on providing access to clean drinking water for families and their livestock, reducing time spent collecting water and incidences of waterborne diseases.

Achievements so far include:

- 248 families and 7,860 livestock have access to clean water.
- 340 families (around 2,040 people) and 6 schools supported with farming supplies and training.
- 100 orphaned and vulnerable children households received seeds, digging tools, and organic manure.
- 5,000 tree seedlings distributed to schools and families.
- Average time to collect water reduced from 6 hours to 41 minutes.

"I USED TO LEAVE HOME AT 6AM TO GET WATER AND GET BACK HOME AT 1.00PM, WITH 80 LITRES OF WATER. THE DONKEY WOULD BE TIRED BUT I WOULD BE EVEN MORE TIRED THAN THE DONKEY TO DO ANYTHING. NOW IT TAKES ME ONLY 30 MINUTES TO GET WATER. I GET HOME STRONG AND DO OTHER CHORES." (EMALI WOMAN).



New toilets - doors to come!




All smiles now on the Desford Tea Estate

DESFORD TEA ESTATE

Young women and children living in the Desford Tea Estate in Nuwara Eliya, Sri Lanka faced disease due to unclean water and were at risk from rape and violence because they did not have access to toilets.

ChildFund put together a complete protection plan working with the community and the Tea Estate Management: the '3 Ts Plan' - Toilets, Taps and Training. This plan included the installation of toilets with a 30-year lifetime, water supply systems for a reliable supply of safe water, plus the teaching of families about health and good hygiene.

As a result, almost 600 families (nearly 3,000 people) have access to new toilets. There are 77 water access points, five water storage tanks and people have received training in health and hygiene. This training includes the implementation of a waterborne disease and toilet maintenance training and awareness programme being run with the help of seven volunteer groups in the estate. 

Kenya crisis update

Earlier this year in Kenya, 1,500 people were killed and 500,000 displaced because of post-election violence. ChildFund appealed to New Zealanders to help affected children and generous Kiwis responded by donating \$140,000.

In June, ChildFund opened its third Child Centred Space (CCS) in Nairobi. CCSs provide places for children to play, learn about public health issues and gain respect for different ethnic groups. Mothers also benefit from meeting together.

As one mother explained, "My baby is a deaf-mute, and because of these gatherings with other mothers at the CCS, I have had so much support to help me cope with this." Another mother said, "I was just in my house all the time, afraid of the violence. Now I know that my neighbours all felt the same way, and we are better for ChildFund's programme."

ChildFund plans to transform, these CCSs into Early Childhood Development centres to ensure ongoing support for mothers and young children.



Parents receiving dry maize rations in Rongo

Emily chatting with Timor Leste children



TIMOR LESTE UP CLOSE



IN MARCH, CHILDFUND NEW ZEALAND'S EMILY BURGESS VISITED PROJECTS IN DILI AND SUAI IN TIMOR LESTE.

"Arriving in Dili, I saw burnt-out buildings and potholed roads; the result of past conflict. Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps were everywhere in parks, churches and suburban streets. Despite the awful hardships of living in poorly equipped camps, people are still fearful of returning home.

The National Hospital has one of the largest IDP camps where people live within the hospital grounds. I was shocked to see nurses wheeling patients past playing children and people washing clothes or cooking. To improve the situation the Government is working with local NGOs to relocate people.



A personal highlight was seeing happy children at ChildFund's Child Centred Spaces (CCS) in several IDP camps. In one, we watched as a teacher taught children aged between three and eight the alphabet while they sat copying the letters in their books. It's great to see how much the CCSs mean to children and parents who have suffered for so long by providing a safe and supportive environment.

Many kilometres south in Suai, where we have 950 children sponsored by Kiwis, I saw real improvements such as access to clean water, latrines and children attending school. The local office is also working hard to help farmers increase crop yields. Thanks to funding from sponsorship we are seeing real improvements in the communities' lives. Thank you to all our child sponsors!"

GETTING INVOLVED

After receiving letters from his sponsored child 10-year-old Gilfan about his desire to learn more, Howard De Vries decided to investigate options for improving education in Timor Leste. Education presents one of the country's biggest



A busy Child Centred Space in Dili

challenges as the small country lacks resources, funding, and skilled teachers.

"While in discussions with the ChildFund team I discovered a great need in the area for Early Childhood Development (ECD) facilities," says Howard.

In Timor Leste, most ECD centres are severely under-equipped with few learning materials or equipment. With Howard's financial support, ChildFund Timor Leste was able to equip six ECD centres with colouring play sets, chairs and tables.

"The progress report I received gave very detailed information as to where

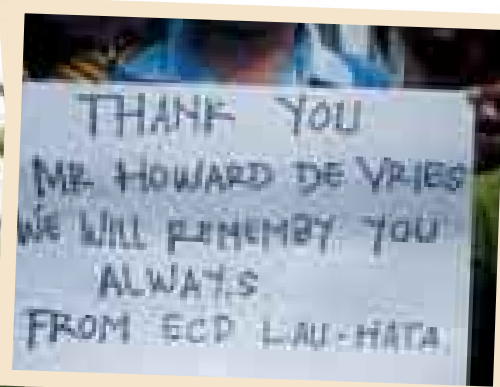
and what my money had been spent on. Amongst photos of the project was a shot of children holding a home-made sign thanking me personally. This really blew me away," says Howard.

Children in well-conceived ECD programmes show higher developmental skills, tend to be more successful in school and are less likely to drop out of school.

"It's my hope and belief that the children attending these ECD centres will have a much better chance of success in their future," says Howard. **CF**



Makeshift homes in the National Hospital IDP camp



We greatly appreciate your support, Howard!

COMPARING TIMOR LESTE AND NEW ZEALAND

	Timor Leste	NZ
Population under 18	60%	26%
Unemployment rate	43%	3.8%
GDP per capita (\$US)	\$358	\$26,664
Under five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	55	6
Life expectancy (yrs)	60	80



SPONSOR VISIT



VISITING JANIRA IN HONDURAS

A recount from child sponsor Patricia Turner

In May last year, Patricia Turner visited her sponsored child Janira in Honduras.

"The day started at 6.15 am with Maria, my ChildFund interpreter and Carlos, our driver, picking me up for the four-hour drive to the Santa Barbara mountain region of Honduras to meet my sponsored child Janira. Along the way, I saw poverty in the clusters of mud-coloured dwellings roofed in rusty iron and the people shouldering bundles of firewood for cooking fires.

Once we reached Santa Barbara, we drove past homes scattered among the pine trees where the families of ChildFund's Project La Cuesta live. Most of the men work small subsistence type farms and the women (like Janira's mother, Antonia) weave the hats and baskets sold in the towns and tourist shops of the main city.

We negotiated the last bend and there, stretched across the road was a banner festooned with streamers and with the words "Welcome Patricia Turner". And there was the welcoming committee lined up to greet us. I felt a bit like visiting royalty! School children in their national costumes of long white skirts or trousers, and white shirts trimmed with red and green braid were waiting for my arrival.

We entered a block building that serves as community centre, adult literacy classroom, teaching centre, office and anything else the Project needs. Then Janira burst in and immediately hugged me and chattered away in breakneck Spanish which Maria had to struggle to break down for me.

When relative calm was restored each member of the Parent's Committee made a speech of welcome and explained their role in the Project. These committees are an absolutely essential part of ChildFund's work. They are the 'Johnnies on the spot' who carry out ChildFund's policies: they monitor, assess, gather, collate and report. ChildFund field officers make regular visits, but the success of the Projects is very much in the hands of these dedicated and hardworking parents.

The children then lined up with a little bit of self-conscious pushing and giggling and presented their folk songs and dances. It was absolutely wonderful and they performed so well. I loved it.

Before we left, Janira's mother Antonia presented me with a beautiful straw hat with "P Turner" woven into the crown. I felt so sad to have to say goodbye to my beautiful 'daughter' who was pleading with us to stay the night, but was so pleased that we had been able to spend this time together. I hope she will remember it for years to come. I know I shall."





PUZZLE WORLD

4 KIDS

CHILDFUND HAS BEEN ASSISTING THE CHILDREN OF TIMOR LESTE SINCE 1990.
HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT TIMOR LESTE?
TEST YOURSELF WITH OUR QUESTIONS.

1. What country colonised Timor Leste for 450 years?
2. When did Timor Leste first proclaim independence?
3. How many years was Timor Leste occupied by Indonesia?
4. When was Timor Leste finally recognised as an independent state?
5. What are the two official languages of Timor Leste?
6. What is the capital city of Timor Leste?
7. What is the average life expectancy for people in Timor Leste?
8. What does 'Timor' mean in English?
9. What is the population of Timor Leste compared to the population of New Zealand? Is it a quarter, half or the same size as New Zealand?
10. What are the names of the two ChildFund New Zealand child sponsorship projects in Timor Leste?

HOW MANY ANSWERS DID YOU GET RIGHT?

0-3: Nice try. You can find out more about Timor Leste at www.timor-leste.gov.tl

4-6: Good effort. Find out more at the link above.

7-9: Well done! You really know a lot about Timor Leste.

10: Fantastic! Go to the top of the class!

ANSWERS 1. Portugal 2. 28 November 1975, nine days later it was invaded by Indonesia. 3. 24 years, from 1975 to 1999 4. 20 May 2002 5. Tetum and Portuguese. (There are also about 16 indigenous languages.) 6. Dili 7. 60 years 8. East 9. One quarter - 1,108,777 10. Project Graca and Project Hamatuk

C	X	G	E	P	J	M
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O	R	C	H	A	R	D
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WORD FINDER

Help find Christmas gifts from the Gifts that Grow catalogue for children, families and communities in developing countries.

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| * BIKE | * ORCHARD |
| * BOOKS | * PEN |
| * CHALK | * RICE |
| * CLOTHING | * TOYS |
| * HOE | |



A LEGACY FOR LIFE

MAKING A BEQUEST THROUGH A WILL TO CHILDFUND NEW ZEALAND IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR CHILDREN.

After you have looked after your loved ones you may want to consider making a lasting gift to ChildFund in your Will. Through your bequest, you can continue to support the work of ChildFund New Zealand and help provide children and their families with clean water, nutritious food, healthcare and education as they move towards self-sufficiency.

There are many practical issues to consider when writing or updating a Will, and we advise you to seek professional legal and financial advice when writing or changing your Will. If you have recently married, bought a house, had children or grandchildren, you should update your Will to reflect your changing circumstances.

To make things a little bit easier, we can send our Wills Guide, which explains how to make a bequest.

If you would like more information on how you can make a bequest to ChildFund in your Will, and leave behind a gift that will make a world of difference to children living in poverty, please call us free on 0800 223 850 or email bequests@childfund.org.nz