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Vision for Workshop fulfilled at last!

On Monday 8th October 2007, the Nuru Centre workshop for disabled adults opened with four enthusiastic, eager-to-learn workers. Led by Sabina, who with Juliet had been trained to produce professionally designed all-purpose cards, the group managed to create 50 finished cards on the first day! They were given the hand-made paper (manufactured from scrap paper and natural fibres), silk-screen printing outfit and pre-printed inserts, by a group called Wonder Welders. Below you can see the type of design, which is made up of scrap materials – a Coca Cola can, and some copper wire! For each card completed, the workers earn 200/-, about 10p, which means that, in a week, they are able to earn a reasonable wage, some of them for the first time in their lives. Wonder Welders had the problem of over-full order books of cards destined for Europe, and not enough disabled workers, nor room for them to work! The Nuru Centre had a brand new workshop, disabled workers ready for action, and thanks to Pastor Charles' good relationship with Wonder Welders, the Nuru Centre workshop got off to a flying start! A number of potential problems were solved at a stroke and now the Nuru Centre has work for some months ahead with guaranteed sales. The cards produced are neatly wrapped in cellophane, with Nuru Centre being credited as co-producers. Readers of Imbaseni Trust news can order these cards, at a special price of £1 each, using the order form on the back page. For each card bought, 28p will go directly to Imbaseni Trust funds to support the Nuru Centre.



Anti-clockwise from above:
Belice, who is deaf and mute;
Card detail showing scrap metal used in design, and screen print;
Label on each card crediting Nuru Centre;
Edward who lost both legs in an accident, with a finished card



On behalf of all the beneficiaries of the Nuru Centre, we wish to thank all those who have generously donated time and money to make the dream come true, especially Hilfe fur Bruder, Eaglesham Parish Church, Liz Cornish, Fred Beam and Stephen Song.



Bryceson Mwakisembeja and family with visitor Mike Naysmith from Edinburgh

Bryceson Mwakisembeja writes from the Scripture Union at Iyela, Mbeya, “Warm greetings from my family and the committee members. Thanks for your prayers and support for the centre. Here is the receipt for the money we received in August. The construction work at the centre is going well. The toilet block is almost finished and the same is true for the kitchen. The electricity process is going well. They told me next month. Please pray for them! Thank you for the go-ahead to buy the bricks to continue to build the wall round the site. After my exam, we will begin that. I am in the process of registering the kindergarten through government policy. I think it is a good time to think about the vocational training centre, especially tailoring, carpentry, masonry, etc. So please continue to pray and encourage us how to develop the centre.” Meanwhile the income generating kindergarten building (below) is now finished.

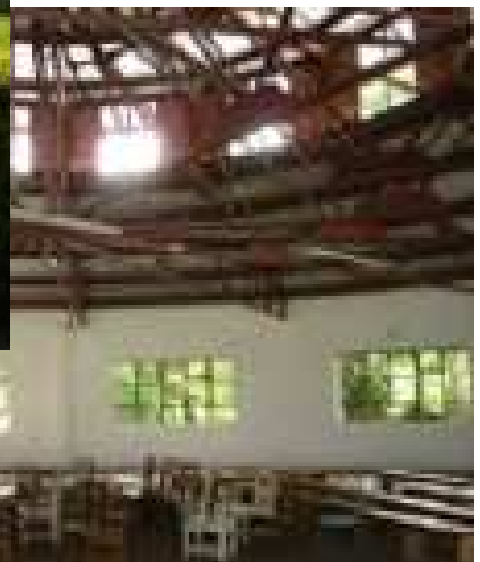


Imbaseni Conference Hall Improvements



Above: Imbaseni Conference Hall, started 10 years ago and now to have a tiled floor.

The Trust recently made a grant of £2,500 to the Imbaseni SU centre to tile the floor of the conference hall. First started ten years ago, and a magnificent structure to behold, it desperately needed a good floor to enable it to be washed and kept looking clean and tidy – impossible with the present rough concrete floor.



Right: The elaborate steel structure supporting the roof of the conference hall

Zanzibar

Longing

Graham Wilson was able to visit Zanzibar recently (he is responsible for different three work-related projects running there!). It was most encouraging to see 35 Sunday school teachers, from different denominations, being trained to make puppets as a way of sharing the message of the Bible. Just the week before, the local Scripture Union worker, Lucas, had been leading a children's festival, which was attended by over 90 children. Helping him in the festival was a group of five Scots, who did a great job in many different ways and who learnt much in the process. Obviously, all the SU supporters on the island are longing for the youth information centre to be completed. After a very long delay, the stage is set to restart building once external funds can be raised. If anyone knows of any sources of funding for such a worthwhile project (particularly bearing in mind the religious makeup of the population), please get in touch with the Trust..



Anticlockwise from the top: Two Sunday school teachers with their puppets; Nuhu Sallanya at the site of the Youth Information Centre; Some of the 90 children taking part in the recent SU festival

Report from Adam Wilson

Adam Wilson writes, "May I use this opportunity to thank you very much for proceeding with your marked support to me and the street children of Tanzania, especially in Dodoma and Dar es Salaam. I also thank the street children themselves and the former street children we still assist and the school children for their co-operation and grateful hearts they have been showing us. The majority of children live under very difficult circumstances but are able to appreciate the help, though for many it takes a long time to reach a complete change of character and behaviour. Apart from providing my living allowance, we receive from the Trust incidental expenses and travelling costs, which support some children in buying their food, school materials and some fares for school-goers. Again we have been using some of this money as a contribution to other street children's projects in Bagamoyo, Singida, Iringa and for the street girls' project in Dar es Salaam. Imbaseni Trust contributed a lot in providing drinks to the street children in Dodoma during our Easter 2007 get-together. More than 60 children attended this gathering. Church leaders led us in praise and worship and sharing God's message. Rose Mallya is extremely grateful for the support she receives from the Imbaseni Trust through an earmarked gift. Many co-workers speak well of her dedication and hard work, as well as her excellent organisational ability.



Imbaseni Trust goes into micro finance

Over the last year, Daria George (pictured right) has faithfully paid back an interest-free loan of £36, made to her by the Imbaseni Trust at the rate of £3 a month. This was to enable her to purchase materials in bulk for making clothes on her sewing machine, so that she could earn a living. This year, it has been agreed that she will borrow £120, paying back at £10 a month, giving her the opportunity to earn even more for herself, and taking advantage of the two-roomed house she and her husband have moved into. Her husband George is a former street boy, well known to IT-supported Adam Wilson, who suffered an industrial accident. The Trust has yet to venture into the much more risky territory if lending money to men!



This newsletter is published by the Imbaseni Trust (UK), c/o Dr Elizabeth Swain, 7 Woodilee Cottages, Lenzie, G66 3UA, e-mail e.swain@btopenworld.com.

If you would like to make a donation to the Trust, for any of the projects described or the ongoing support of other projects, please send a cheque payable to 'The Imbaseni Trust' to this address. If you are a taxpayer, you can add value to your gift by completing a Gift Aid form (available from the above address or from the website at www.imbaseni-trust.org.uk).

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE ONLINE?

To give directly, eg online, here are the Imbaseni Trust account details: Co-operative Bank, Balloon St, Manchester, sort code 08-92-99 Account Name: The Imbaseni Trust; Account No:65041787. remember to give your name and if you are a taxpayer, you can increase the value of your gift as mentioned above.

Order form for Nuru Centre cards

Please detach and send to:
Miss Morag Stenhouse, 67 Oak Drive, Lenzie, Glasgow, G66 4DG
Home telephone: 0141 776 1767

Name Tel no.

Address.....

.....Post Code.....

Please send me cards at £2 each, total £.....

Please add the following for postage for 1-10 cards - £2; 11-20 - £3; over 20 - £4.

Amount enclosed £.....

Please make cheques payable to The Imbaseni Trust.