



Christian **Partners** in Africa

WWW.CPAFRICA.ORG.UK

Spring 2015

the View

In this issue
We celebrate 20 Years
of CPA

Photograph taken from Autumn 2000 Newsletter



“PEOPLE

NOT BUSINESS, POLITICS, POWER, POSTION OR PRIDE

JUST PEOPLE THAT'S WHAT WE'RE ABOUT.

IT'S **PEOPLE** THAT'S ALL

PEOPLE WITH BLOATED BELLIES,

SWOLLEN FEET,

LICE RIDDEN HEADS AND PARCHED MOUTHS

PEOPLE WEARY FROM PERSECUTION,
POVERTY, INJUSTICE, FAMINE, DROUGHT

AND DISEASE

PEOPLE IGNORED BY THE 'SYSTEM,'

FORGOTTEN BY THE **WEST**

THAT'S WHO WE WANT TO HELP. THEY'RE THE ONES

LOVED BY JESUS

NO EXCUSES, NO FALTERING,

WE MUST LOVE

NO TURNING AROUND. TO

T H E M

STAND WITH THEM IN THEIR
HELPLESSNESS AND BRING
HOPE, LIGHT AND DIGNITY

IN THE NAME OF JESUS

IT'S **THEM**, NOT US, **THEM**. TO DO RIGHT BY **GOD**

AND RIGHT BY **THEM**, TO DO **ALL WE CAN**

NOTHING MORE, NOTHING LESS.”

Chris Shelbourne [1996]

● It's People that Matter

Chris and Rosey Shelbourne



It's hard to believe we've been on the go for 20 years but it's true. In this newsletter we want to reflect on that time and share some stories with you, not because we like nostalgia but because it's good to remember and be thankful.

We started CPA in **1995** out of a personal conviction to do something to help people in Africa. We had no relevant experience, had never travelled to Sub-Saharan Africa and had no contacts there; spectacularly ill-qualified to do anything like this you might think, and you would be right! But we wanted to do something. In the words of Martin Luther King, **“Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.”**

And so the journey began. Trips in **1995** saw us introduced to Million Belihu and the Mulu Wongel Church in Ethiopia and Komamboga Children's Home in Uganda. Two years later we met Ephraim Gensi who introduced us to the Kainamo community and was instrumental in our involvement with St Paul's School, Rukungiri. Our work in Africa also expanded to include work in

Malawi, Mozambique and West Africa.

Over 20 years CPA has raised **£3.2 million**, for which we are grateful to God and the **unrelenting generosity** of you, our supporters. Without you none of this would have been possible.

There are still many things we don't understand about Africa. What we do know, however, is that **relationships are everything**: relationships between us and our partners, and between our partners and the communities they work with. **In the end, it's people that matter.**

With grateful thanks for your generous support over 20 years.

Chris Rosey

What follows are some snapshots of the past 20 years: Articles are written by CPA Directors, team members, friends and Partners.



● The Story So Far

.....
We asked the CPA Directors to sum up the last 20 years in no more than a hundred words... some of them managed it, some of them didn't!
.....

"How can I sum up the past 20 years? It's been a **privilege** and a pleasure; a challenge and an **adventure**. It's been fascinating, interesting, and stretching. And the highlights? Meeting people and **sharing lives**; walking the journey and chewing the fat; laughing and crying; learning and sharing; inspiring and being inspired; encouraging and being encouraged. It's been a **real joy** and something of which I have loved being a part.

Rosey Shelbourne

"We all have a worldview, whether explored or not. No African partner has influenced mine more than Graham Beggs from South Africa. Led by the Holy Spirit, he has **challenged** and **encouraged** CPA to see our activities as part of God's larger plan; to gather Africa and her people into **God's loving embrace**. Be it through prayerful or prophetic acts, or **"taking time to sit under the tree"** with local people, he helped us see the importance of laying aside our agenda of

change, to **hear and connect** with each individual **community**, so that our paths could merge and we could **adventure together** in seeing God's Kingdom come. My personal thanks go to Graham and Colleen Beggs."

Raymond Evans



It had been a long, tiring day but we had one more Microfinance beneficiary to meet. In a **tiny wooden hut** close to the edge of the dusty road I am **introduced to Monica**, a shy, quietly spoken woman who sells second-hand clothes to passers-by 'til well after dark. **Recently widowed**, this meagre trade is the only means by which her family is fed and her children receive an education. Illuminated by a dim, smoky oil lamp, **she gently smiles** as she tells me that CPA has given her a '**hope for the future**'. Above all else this humble remark has motivated me to continue to serve the poor of Africa.

Richard Lambert



I heard it said recently, **"to change a life is to change the world"**. At first, it seems to be one of those sound bites from an inspirational speaker that you may have had to endure! As I reflected on this, I realised that it's true; your support has made it so. Whether it's a life **transformed by love** at Komamboga, a child given **primary education** at St Paul's, or a community supplied with **clean water** in Sefi Beret, the evidence that I've observed, is that inevitably, that person or community goes on to **change the life of another**.

Paul Quincey



Twenty years has passed in a blink!

I remember my first trip to Africa: the sights, smells, sounds all bombarded me. I'd never experienced anything like it. I love the landscapes of Africa, the noises of cicadas at night, the purple jacaranda trees but **it's the people that I love the most**. The warmth, hospitality and sheer humanity of the people we have met over twenty years is overwhelming. **All have stories to tell**: of hardship, bravery, perseverance and God's grace. God seems to be at work in their lives and that, in the end, is what **gives me great hope for Africa's future**.

Chris Shelbourne



● KCH In The World Cup

It's true, in the words of Joe Cocker, that "the best things in life are the simple things".

On a recent visit to the Komamboga Children's Home in Uganda, the children challenged us to a **football match**. They were convinced that if we, by some **stroke of good fortune**, won the match, then England would do well in the World Cup, whereas if they won (and they were pretty confident) then an African country would win. The fact that they were children playing barefoot didn't concern us. **This was serious**. This was football. The match was **fast and furious** (just as well we played late in the afternoon). Each time the children scored they, and the spectators, let out **whoops of delight** followed by a **victory lap** of the pitch. We held on for victory, our pride intact – just! (alas – England's chances were not enhanced!)

Later that evening the 'Aunties' in the Home gave us **fried ants** and **grasshoppers** to eat (for once the darkness was a God-send!) With a plateful of these 'delicacies', matoke, and sweet potato, we **thanked God** for his provision of food and enjoyed some light-hearted banter with the Aunties and children.

In Britain, when the sky turns grey and the rain sets in, my thoughts often turn to Africa: hot days, blue skies, red sunsets, starlit nights, and those **wonderful African children** who enjoy the simple things in life.

Chris Shelbourne [Summer '98]

● Funny How Things Run In Families

What I've always loved about KCH is that it's a family Home with the emphasis on 'family'.

Although children live at KCH until they are **self-supporting** and ready to set up home on their own, all of the young adults (or not so young now!) keep in touch, meet up and visit the Home regularly. **The youngsters look up to their older brothers and sisters** and they have a representative on the Board.

I recently heard a **moving story** about how one of the Home's first orphans, (who is now married and living in Australia) invited all the KCH children to his Ugandan house on Christmas Day, giving them a meal and presents and then encouraging them by saying:

“Don't worry, it's going to be okay, look at me now, it's possible to make something of your life.”

This young man has gone on to build a school in Uganda serving 600 children who are all supported by Australian donors. What an amazing story.

Looking back, it has been a **privilege** to contribute to the lives of these children.

Looking forward we would love to see more children go on to live happy, fulfilled lives.

Rosey Shelbourne [Spring '15]

KOMAMBOGA CHILDREN'S HOME

was founded in **1985**. CPA became involved ten years later and together with the original Home Director, Nancy, and more recently, Julius, has provided love, support and education to 38 children. Currently 15 children are living at the Home. Running costs each year total £38,000. Why don't you change the life of a child and become a sponsor; for just £20 a month you can extend your family and make a real difference!

Still playing football, making music & having fun!



The Home in 1996

St Paul's School, Rukungiri

● A Successful Journey

There is a tradition in Uganda that when you leave somewhere, maybe to walk home, your friends walk part of the way with you. **"Let me give you a push"** they say; and you share some of the journey together.

This is how we see our **partnership with St Paul's School**. It is on its own journey, and we have chosen to walk some of it with them, in **friendship** – to 'give them a push'. For us, this means **sharing in their hopes and vision** for the future,

not setting the agenda, but walking their chosen path.

In practical terms, CPA has partnered with St Paul's since 2001 to help it fulfill its dream to become a **beacon school**; not only in its **academic performance**, but also in **child welfare and social action**, through its scholarship programme for orphans. There are now 600 pupils; 150 of which are on free **scholarships** provided by sponsorship. The school continues to build a reputation for **excellent results** and promoting child rights.

If you would like to provide a scholarship for a child at St Paul's please email: office@cpafrica.org.uk



CPA's First Visit to St Paul's 2000



New classrooms built in 2003 & scholarship programme set up for 150 children



New Library & Teachers Houses 2004



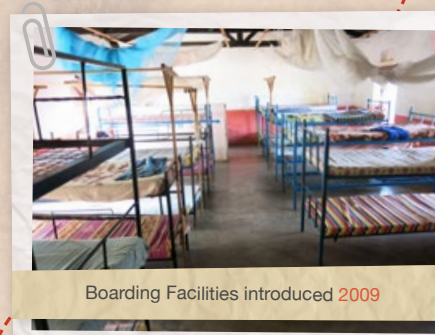
Play Equipment Installed 2005



New classroom block built in 2006 as the School continues to grow



Child Protection workshops begin 2008



Boarding Facilities introduced 2009



Eating Shelter, Water Tanks and Toilets 2010/11



Separate Nubery School Phase 1: 2012



Shivan & Martin - Social Workers who support Project Children & their Guardians 2013



St Paul's Community School - providing education to 600 children 2015

● White Nile in Partnership with Caring Hands, Uganda

Milla, 2014

‘Caring Hands’ began “by accident” on the back of a simple **act of kindness**. In **December 2005**, Milla Happonen (founder), and her friends, wanted to do something for the families living in poverty around their compound in Uganda; they ended up supporting 120 families (**600 people**). Giving a simple Christmas meal led to further feeding of the families for a month. When the question of “**What happens when the food runs out?**” arose, Caring Hands was created to address the challenge.

Caring Hands is now a registered charity operating in **Kampala**. It originally began as a **bead making enterprise**, training ladies in jewellery making, to enable them to provide for their families. Many of the ladies came from difficult circumstances and were HIV positive. Today, **Caring Hands** has grown so much that its current activities include

capacity building in **local savings**, income generation, **adult literacy**, health and environmental issues. It also engages in activities with children and youth, focused on **education, sports and recreation, child rights, peer support groups**, with a special emphasis on **empowering girls**.

Milla says:

Our goal is to help families out of poverty. The ladies who come to work for us are often outcast or abandoned by relatives. We want to care for them in all aspects and create a feeling that everyone is welcome.” She said “you can’t change the whole world, but it is enough to do something for a fellow human being who wants to do things for themselves. Nobody wants to be a beggar.”

In **2010** CPA created ‘**White Nile**’, an online shop, selling jewellery from Caring Hands. Everything is **ethical, recycled** and **fairly traded**. Each bead is made from a long triangular-shaped strip of coloured recycled paper that is rolled, varnished, hung out to dry, and threaded. The colours of the beads come from the paper itself; no dyes are added.

The profits provide a wage for the ladies and the excess is **ploughed back** into the **local community**. Additional profits from jewellery sales go to support Komamboga Children’s Home.

Visit our online shop at:
www.whitenilestore.com

White Nile
Beads that change lives





Fred and Grace



Jackson

Generating Income & Hope, Kainamo Microfinance Initiative

The KMI was launched in May **2002** in partnership with our friends AEE* and still continues today, 12 years later. After nine years of funding and training CPA was able to withdraw, allowing local people to **take full responsibility** for the project.

Over **100 small businesses** benefitted from the structured loans scheme run by manager Fred and a local committee. Fred wanted to **reach the poor** and marginalised of his community with the **Good News** and also, through small businesses and agriculture, to help **alleviate poverty** and hopelessness.

KMI was established following a community project helping poor farmers to grow and market **passion fruit**. Building on the **relationships** formed and valued, the **microfinance** initiative was a natural progression.

Enid

Enid used her loan to set up a small shop selling all kinds of items: maize flour, rice, and soap, washing powder, material, even a pink hat! Other businesses consisted of everything imaginable: from bicycle repairs and welding to homemade gin. (Sampled strictly for research purposes, it was found to pose no threat to Gordon's!)

Fighting Poverty, Transforming Lives with Five Talents

In **2014** CPA formed a **new partnership** with Five Talents. Five Talents work with marginalised communities in Africa. Their main focus is to make loans available to poor and marginalised people, who don't have access to finance, allowing them to

set up small businesses and encouraging them to start saving. The **benefits** are that families can **generate income** to pay for things that matter to them: school costs and medicine.

CPA and Five Talents are making small loans available to local people in **Kisoro Uganda**, which is close to the border with Rwanda and the DRC. Flooded with refugees living there can be tough. With training and investment we hope to see the programme become sustainable.

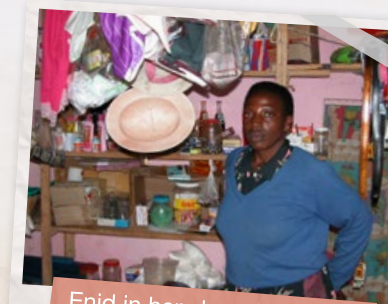
Jackson has set up a **bakery** and a **brick making business** with his loan.

Jackson says:

My life has changed because I am able to pay for school fees for my children. I have already constructed my house and when there is sickness I am able to pay for my health and my family. So I am achieving a lot.



Mary, Kainamo



Enid in her shop, Kainamo

*African Evangelistic Enterprise



Sabah

● Forward in Leaps and Bounds, Bello, 1995

1995 Chris and Francis travel to Bello with Million on the very first CPA trip, in response to a request from the Mulu Wongel Church. They are **shocked at the poverty**. It was the first time the community had seen white people.

“Our first priority; to **relocate the village** away from the malaria infested area and provide initial **food relief** to its starving people. Then came a grinding mill, a spring cap and an oxen fattening scheme in 1997.” “The fattening scheme was **stunningly successful**, with farmers making profits of 70-100% when selling the oxen, helping them buy more cattle and **provide for families**.”

1997 “The nearest clinic to Bello is 50 miles on foot. We establish an **emergency health fund** with donkeys and carts for transport. One of our biggest projects: to **construct a health clinic**, to serve several thousand people!”

1999 “Arriving we find **good news** everywhere. This is the first time we can really see the benefits. The village is more established and has a **dynamic** feel. We see crops growing and we’re mobbed

by people thanking us for the new **clean water supply**; it’s alleviated many stomach and health problems. We can see a **new school**, hear of an embryonic **market** and even have time for a game of volleyball on a crudely marked pitch. A visit to the local church is particularly moving and **we realise how important all this is**.”

2004 “The Health Clinic is complete and handed over to local government. It has even become a **catalyst for government investment** in the area. Its provision is the final chapter in a **remarkable story** for the people of Bello. When CPA first visited 9 years ago there were 500 people living in abject poverty. Now there are 2,000 people and things are really looking up.”

WHAT IS AN OX?

An ox is a tractor, a fertiliser factory, a source of income, a means of growing food and a status symbol... wow!

● Addis Street Kids, 1999

“We’re meeting with Sabah, who heads up a **street children’s project** in Addis Ababa. There are approximately **40,000**

young people living on the capital’s streets, scavenging to survive. Sabah has started an **innovative programme** to help ‘**whole families**’ at risk. With CPA providing funding, she gives families small ‘start up’ business loans, helping them to **provide for their children**, and keeping them off the streets. She is an Ethiopian Mother Theresa with the smile of an angel.”

● A Cry for Help in Debre Markos, 1996

1996 This was one of CPA’s first projects, working with the Mulu Wongel Church. Although poverty was an everyday reality, these **people had lost everything**; homes, livestock, land and even family members, **as a result of oppression**. They had no access to basic necessities. **They asked us to consider a child care programme... so that’s what we did!** Apart from the obvious provision of food, clothing and healthcare for 112 children, the aim was to give **access to education**, investing in the future.

2002 “It’s amazing to think it’s 5 years since we started working with our friends at Debre Markos. The first thing to say is “**thank you**”, not just from us, but from the families, who through your **generosity and love**, have found a **hope and dignity**, that may not have been previously possible. It’s easy to focus on money and material things, and you



have been so generous with these, but sometimes **we forget the effects of love and care**. By the simple acts of sponsoring, writing and praying, you have said to that family “I care”, and we may never know the **long-term impact** of that. Looking through recent photos, I’m reminded of my first visit to Debre Markos. I was struck with the enormity of the need! The children were ragged, threadbare clothes, and most had bare feet. Yet despite this, **their joy at meeting us was real - and humbling**. Today, the pictures speak of the enormous progress in the lives of these families. The simple fact is that **life is better**, thanks to your love and care and to the hard work of our Project Workers, Zewdie and Selamawit.”

● Gambella Connections, 2013

“In **2013**, in London, I was privileged to meet Bishop Grant Le Marquand; Area Bishop for the Horn of Africa.” Bishop Grant and his wife, Doctor Wendy, live in Gambella, western Ethiopia, on the South Sudanese border, where he **oversees 70 churches**, with only 16 priests.”

In **2014** a small CPA team travelled to Gambella. Subsequently, CPA sent £3,800 towards the sports programme; set up to **promote reconciliation** between tribal groups; and the library; used by local children to complete their studies by giving them **access to books** that are in short supply in the schools.

Recently, thousands of South Sudanese refugees have flooded into the area. The **2014 Christmas Appeal** raised £1,060 towards the tremendous need there.

● Clean Water at Last in Rasa Goba, 1997

Rasa Goba is on the edge of the Danakil Desert. Farming communities who live there are wholly dependent on rain for agriculture and water to drink.

In **1997**, finding riverbeds dried up and people walking a 40km round trip to collect water, **we felt compelled to do something**. An initial quote suggested that £30,000 could provide water for the whole community (33,000 people).

It was to be a very slow process! Over 4 years we **explored many possibilities**, with no success. Meanwhile, the people still had no water. By now the estimated cost had escalated to **£100,000** and we

didn't know how we could raise it. Pastor Kassaye told us many people had tried to bring water to the area before, but had always failed.

In **2001** a CPA team went simply to **pray** and ask God to intervene. With the Sefi Beret community they climbed the Rasa Mountain, prayed and shared communion. The following week God did intervene. A large UK charity offered to pay the full cost of the project and together we began to **dig a reservoir**. It was completed in **2003**.

The following year CPA returned, to celebrate the **provision of water** with the community, but the pond was empty because the rains had failed. Feeling devastated, we revisited the following year to find the pond still empty.

We prayed together...

Ask rain from the LORD in the season of the spring rain, from the LORD who makes the storm clouds, and He will give them showers of rain, to everyone the vegetation in the field.

(Zechariah 10:1)

That night there was an electrical thunderstorm. **Rain fell for about 2 hours**; everyone waking to rain on their tin roofs. As we drove away we realised that the rain had exclusively fallen on Rasa Goba.

That same year, we prayed with the community during the '**season of rain**': June to September. And in that time the pond filled with water. It now supplies the **whole community** with clean

water. The government has recently got involved and intends to pipe clean water to the Rasa villages. This means the local people will no longer be dependent on the rain. **The community is extremely excited.**

2009 / 2012 Compassion International launched two child care programmes for 500 children in **Sefi Beret** and **Abayater**. CPA **partnered with local churches** to fund classrooms, making them eligible for the programmes. This is encouraging for the local church and is already having a **positive effect** on the wider community.



● Christian Partners in Afar - Asgefen, 2005

“Situating in the Afar region, the people of Asgefen are **nomadic and destitute**, with almost no access to help or education. Of the 2 million Afar, only 2% are reportedly literate. Parents living in the area welcome **the idea of a kindergarten** to give their children skills; creating **new choices** and opportunities for the Afar people; ensuring their survival. Family heads and Clan Leaders are willing to help with labour and construction materials.”

Working with Beletew, the Kindergarten opens in 2005.

“We arrive in Asgefen to see a banner reading ‘**Christian Partners in Afar**’. The locals decided to make us their partners, and we feel **instantly welcomed** and accepted. People have begun to build permanent houses so they can be closer to the kindergarten. There is now a **thriving community** and it’s growing every day.”

● “What We Have, We Share” -Arjo Gudeto, 1998

“Arjo Gudetu was **deeply shocking**. We arrived to find families waiting for us in the noonday sun. Some had walked many miles, barefoot to meet us; these people were the **poorest people** we had

ever met. It’s difficult to describe the poverty and desperation.”

In **1998** CPA launched a **Family Support & Development Scheme** and created a community development fund to help **50 families**.

Mandy Hunter wrote:

I will never forget the look of hopelessness and degradation in their eyes. Many had their heads bowed, unable to have eye contact. Many had legs that were so thin they could only just weight bear. Their bodies were covered in scabies, their heads with lice; frenzied flies were all around their heads. As I looked upon these faces time after time, feeling some of their pain and anguish, I was ashamed. Ashamed to be white, to be wealthy, to be asking questions, even to be there. But I knew the love of Jesus could be shown by a simple touch, handshake, compassionate expression and I knew that’s what I must do. These people needed to feel God’s love in their desperation; to be their hope.

“Rarely have we witnessed **such generosity**, demonstrated by a **mother of five**, who had taken in **five more orphans**. When asked how she coped, she replied, with tears rolling down her face, ‘**What we have we share.**’”



Arjo Gudeto



Asgefen

Ethiopia



● The Bahir Dar Girls, 1997

In **1997** with the Mulu Wongel Church and Million, a Childcare Scheme was established to help **12 girls orphaned in the 1984 famine**. Families cared for the girls, under the church's supervision. Chris describes their first meeting in **2001**. "They were in a **terrible state**, their heads down, they had no light in their faces and they seemed without hope."

What happened next is nothing short of a miracle! In **1999** three of the girls got into one of Ethiopia's best vocational training schools; Selam Children's Village in Addis Ababa.

Sintayehu went on to teach Home Economics to prisoners in Addis; Yeshareg worked in Selam as Mrs Roschli's assistant, the founder of the school and six girls completed hairdressing courses.

Dave Parker, who sponsored Tarik for 7 years, was invited to her wedding.

Dave said:

"The thing I'll never forget is how beautiful Tarik looked in her wedding gown. I felt very proud to have been part of her life."



Beruhe and Tarik, 2003

West Africa

● Changing Lives...

In July **2007**, CPA forged a partnership with Andrew and Harriet Dimmock who were living in West Africa. Together we established an **adult literacy** programme in two rural communities building classrooms, supplying textbooks and paying teachers' salaries.





Malawi... 'The Warm Heart of Africa'

Kauma

1999... "Smiling faces, huts, children running barefoot, the marketplace alive with banter. This was **Kauma Squatter Camp in Lilongwe**. It's hard to believe that 23,000 people are surviving with only 7 water pumps (6 of them broken!). Our first job ... to mend the pumps and provide maintenance training!

At our first meeting with the **Chief of Kauma**, we breathe a sigh of relief when he gives us his blessing (We didn't like to consider the alternative!) and continue working under his protection".

Over the next six years, in partnership with **AEE** and working with **Morrison**, we were able to: set up a **health and sanitation programme**; run **four adult literacy courses**; sink **two wells**;

fund **pit latrines**; establish and train **Traditional Birth Attendants**; and eventually fund the building of a **health centre**, providing the community with easily accessible healthcare for the first time in their lives. We saw so much change!

The **Adult Literacy** Courses each ran with over 400 students, (90% women), taught in small classes; CPA supplying over 360 textbooks and students receiving government-approved diplomas. For some, this was their **first taste of education**, an opportunity to learn new skills and discover their potential.

2001 During the Famine the **Health Education & Sanitation Programme (HESP)** workers had a busy time due to the high threat of Cholera and food



shortage. After successful refresher training, they continued to **educate the community** on health issues and the causes of disease. After the introduction of **clean water and sanitation** in Kauma the number of people who suffered from cholera fell by 90%.

17 Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) (midwives) are trained to help women give birth in a safe environment. Since the TBAs began practicing, figures show infant mortality has dropped significantly, especially in Kauma. A **bicycle ambulance** is supplied to get expectant mothers with complications, and the sick and injured, to the City Hospital.

2002 The TBAs are encouraged to build **birthing huts**, CPA providing some materials as an incentive.

2002 New **sports initiative** led by youth and health workers, giving **health and social education** to young people, using sport as a springboard.

2002 Malawi is gripped by **famine**. £21,000 is raised in the UK, saving lives and helping many families in five villages. The bulk is spent on **future planning**: maize seed and fertilisers are purchased ready for the planting season.

2004 "The Malawi Cycle challenge!" raised £30,000. As a result, brand new **boreholes** for **Chatata**, and **Kayinga** are dug. Both maintained by committees, taking a small levy from the community.

Lilongwe Lowdown

Kathryn's adventures in Malawi will make you smile!

2006 Already been here 2 months! I'm Youth leader at Capital Baptist Church; a challenge, but love it! Bought a kitten & 2 puppies; Dad was right, they're hard work! Recently worked on '**Chicken Project**': most unpleasant - I HATE birds and had to catch 300 (Shudder)! Working on Baby Ward in my spare time: fast becoming my favourite part of the week.



2007

2007 Moved houses a lot this year, but Hamish the cat is still with me! Excited to launch **Zion**, a **youth project** in the city. Working in the prison with 6 illiterate inmates. Got asked to coach the prison football team... politely declined!! Visiting the **Baylor Clinic** monthly & working with children living with **HIV/AIDS**. : Children so full of life and hilarious make me laugh for days!



2012

2008 Joined **The Children of Blessing Trust (COBT)**: a charity for disabled children & families. Disability is taboo in Malawi; many disabled babies abandoned. Been doing lots of workshops and **home visits**. Recently **rescued** a baby from a pit latrine. Was asked to name him - called him Josh.

2009 Lucy visited and we went on Safari. Came **face to face** with a **hippo** (literally!) ... Not sure who was more shocked: brilliant!

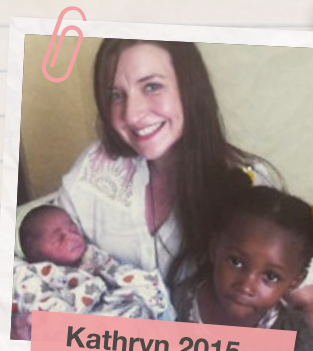
2010 Started Parent Workshops at COBT: really successful. Called into **Crisis Nursery** to meet special guests; found myself face to face with 'Madonna's people'! Surreal! Mum & Dad visited and de-bugged house - everything edible now safe in zip-lock bags! Asked to care for one-month-old baby, I brought him home and **he slept in my suitcase!**



Baby in a Suitcase!

2011 No fuel in Malawi! Can only buy it on the black market. Involves 'hoods up, eyes down', driving to dodgy areas and dealing with sinister looking men. All part of life's **adventure!** Began tutoring children with learning difficulties at rehab centre called **Sandi**.

2012 Left COBT to work at **Sandi**; joined an amazing team! Been asked at church to become a Deacon! **Amazing honour!** Chance to spend 2 months in Uganda at **Caring Hands**; couldn't say no! Feel like I'm living my **hopes and dreams!**



Kathryn 2015

2013 House full of cockroaches - yuck! Work at Sandi going well. Visited **refugee camp** to work with volunteers in pre-school for children with disabilities, children aged 10 to 21... due to misconceptions! Spent time with children **singing** and **playing games**: just amazing!

2014 Been approached by a little school, **Bambino**, in Lilongwe, to establish **Special Needs Programme**. Still working at Crisis Nursery and church; very busy lady! **Loving life!**

Mozambique

Mozambique Matters

Chris and Rosey first visited Mozambique in **1999**. A year later devastating cyclones hit!

Jerry & Gina told us:

“It is difficult to describe the scene; the country is on its knees. The stories you have heard are not exaggerated; roads disappeared overnight, families separated, leaving a legacy of homelessness and disease.”

New Village for Flood Victims

“It is late morning in Pambarra; the village built to **provide homes** for **displaced families** during the Mozambique floods. CPA provided materials for the people to **build their own houses**.

I am amazed at the size of the village. I had imagined a small area crammed with houses with tin roofs. Every family has been given a **large plot** to construct a home – each displays a tinge of individuality. Stick fences have been carefully woven around the plots and storehouses have been built from local materials.

This village has been ‘created’ by **bringing** a whole mixture of **displaced families together**. In the centre stands a church and the atmosphere is **light and peaceful**.

I meet a very old lady who, during the construction period, was too weak to build a house for herself so she cooked for the men, who in return built her house.

All around are **signs of life**; a pregnant lady whose baby is due any day, children playing in the dust, carefully tended rows of crops, ladies collecting water from stand pipes, and old men sitting talking. The people are poor but now at least have the basics to survive.”

An **emergency appeal** raised, **£18,000**. The money was used for food relief, clothing, blankets, seed for planting and also materials for Pambarra and **50 homes in another 2 villages**.

2001: For three months, a CPA team of professionals, led by Mandy Hunter, **trained** nine local people to operate as **health workers** in eight community **Bush Clinics**. These health workers were given extended training and were consequently able to offer **life changing** treatments. Mandy continued to visit this project and is still involved in Mozambique.

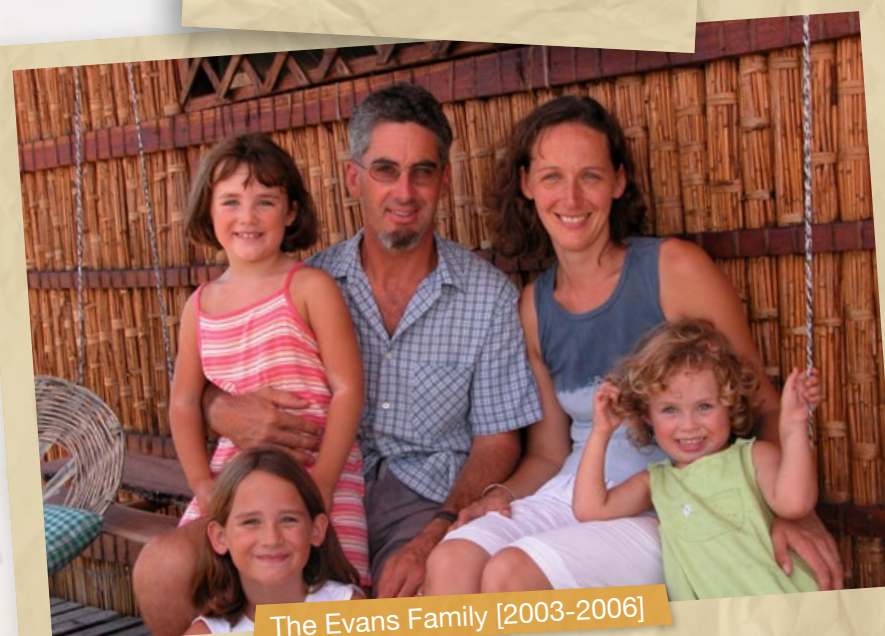
May 2003: The **Evans Family** set off for their new life in **Vilanculos**. Raymond built a trade training school with local people, teaching them **carpentry** and **metal work skills**, enabling them to feed and educate their families. He also trained them in small business development.



Mandy & the health workers



New Homes in Pambarra



The Evans Family [2003-2006]



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Front Cover Photo: Photo from the Passion Fruit Project, Kainano, Uganda (2001)
Back Cover Photo: Exam time at St Paul's School, Rukungiri, Uganda

