

Hello from New Beginnings Children's Village.

We would like to say thank you so very much to Global Development Group, all our sponsors and supporters for the great help that you are rendering to us. Many things have been achieved here at New Beginnings Children's Village and for this we give the credit to you. NBCV is currently home to 19 children, with 10 boys and 9 girls. We also have a minder team of 8 staff who care for the children, the home and development projects. Together we make a beautiful and happy family. Even though some children stay only months until a safe home is found for them, we love and care for them just the same.

Our children have grown strong and healthy thanks to the nutritious meals served here every day. As recommended by the Department of Social Welfare, we change our food menu every six months so that the children can remain physically and mentally healthy. Every one of our children is very happy to be here at NBCV because they are assured of three meals a day, education, clothing among other many things and above all a family that they did not have. They have all blended in very well and are happy to be members of a big family of many uncles and aunts.

New Beginnings Children's Village was privileged to receive a team of seven Australians on the 2nd April 2012 who stayed in Zambia for many weeks. It was such a memorable moment when the team arrived in Kafue the following day after resting because everyone was waiting anxiously to meet the new friends that we had never met before. The team did many activities at NBCV with the children and staff, which was a lot of fun and a great boost for their English language skills.



(a) Face painting (b) Hand knitted rugs, a gift from the aunts and children of New Beginnings Christian Church.

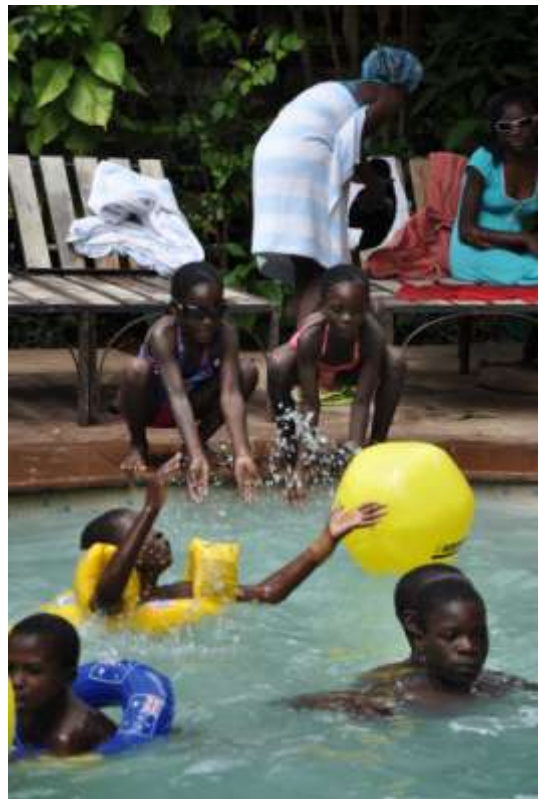


(a) Craft activity with Aussies Bernadette Ellis, Gail Muller, Les Ellis, Emma Barnes and Chrissy Altamura. (b) hanging out with the kids



(a) After teaching the kids how to tie knots with ropes, Les taught Betty how to play basketball. (b) Musonda, Nicholas, Bernadette and Crispin, going through schoolwork books.

However, the climax of the visit came when it was announced that we would be going to Livingstone the following day. It was such a big surprise because it was kept a secret until that time. Everyone was so excited and could not wait for the following day to travel more than 550KM south of Kafue on a big bus. While in Livingstone, we stayed at “Jollyboys Camp”. It was timely because the weather was hot there, and there was a swimming pool. None of us could resist the pool and we had much fun in the water.



While in Livingstone, we visited a number of places very close by including Victoria Falls, Mosi-O-Tunya National Park, the Livingstone museum and we also did a boat cruise on the Zambezi River. We saw a number of wild animals like impala, giraffe, wildebeest, elephant, hippos, crocodile, water monitors to mention but a few. This trip was possible because a generous donor paid for all the children and minders to have this blessed and educational trip of a lifetime. It was indeed worth doing because it has left a mark on the hearts of our children and everyone else which shall never be erased.



(a) On the Zambezi River cruise we saw elephants come close, drinking at the river edge. (b) By the Zambezi river.



(a) We hired a bus from a local church to drive the children through the Mosi-O-Tunya NP to see our native animals. Can you see the giraffe? (b) Learning to use binoculars. Major, Peter Siame and William spotted a fish eagle (our national emblem!).



Drenched by the spray of the magnificent Victoria Falls (Zambia), one of the seven natural wonders of the world.

While the Aussies were here with us in Kafue, David organised for a wire security fence to be constructed around the hammer mill. The hammer mill equipment is expensive and highly valued, it being our most important long-term income generating activity. We have 2 dogs that provide 24-hour security, complementing Godfrey who is our security officer. We are just entering the peak season of the grinding services so the hammer mill is getting even busier.



(a) New hammer mill fence to enclose security dogs. (b) New hen enclosure

Our other income generating activity is 100 laying hens; these were laying very well until recently when production dropped significantly due to lack of calcium and sunlight. (When we increased hen numbers last year, we bricked in their previous wire enclosure to provide shelter for them during the wet season). Thanks to GDG and the “Aussie Invasion”, money was provided for a wire enclosure so now the hens can play in the sun anytime without disturbing the vegetable garden. Egg production has come back to normal which means eggs for meals and for sale.

Not long after the Aussie team left for home, Global Development Group carried out their annual site visit. This year we were privileged to meet for the first time Carey Westwood, GDG Senior Project Officer from Australia who was accompanied by Martha Waitthaka, (GDG representative from Kenya) on her second visit. GDG is very pleased with the NBCV home and all the development activities. They gave us great encouragement to continue on.

We want you to know, we value and cherish your love for the kids and your commitment to New Beginnings Children’s Village. Your prayers, support and sponsorship make the kids and every one of us at the children’s home to be what we are today, full of joy and smiles.

Thank you to GDG, New Beginnings Christian Church Reedy Creek and Tugun and all our supporters. You really are making a difference and ‘changing lives so that other lives can be changed’.

Kenny



New Beginning's Christian Church is proud to be a partner for Project J555 New Beginning's Children's Village with Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993), Australian AusAID approved Non Government Organisation carrying out quality humanitarian projects with approved partners and providing aid to relieve poverty and provide long term solutions.