



The Falconer Trust

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Reg Charity
No.280864



supporting

The Falconer Children's Home & Orphanage

KABULAMEMA, P.O. BOX 140075, KABOMPO, N.W. PROVINCE, ZAMBIA, AFRICA

CHRISTMAS 2000

“UPS AND DOWNS”



Saying 'Thank you'

Since our last newsletter, Simon's health has been a problem. We had been concerned about this for some time as he had been up and down with recurring bouts of malaria and tummy troubles. Whilst in Ndola he was admitted to the Ndola General Hospital and they suspected an appendicitis but after weeks on medication he was discharged and went home. However on the 11th of October he was taken ill again and on getting the news we were able to arrange for him to be flown to Mukinge American based hospital – the Hospital where Miriam trained. After tests, they found that he had an intestinal bug called Giardia, well known in Africa, which can be treated with medicine, so he is back at Kabulamema with his health improving.

During Simon's weeks away, Miriam – the young nurse aged 26 – with 19 members of her “staff” – most of whom were those brought up in the Home by Mama – were keeping things going at the Home with more babies coming and the family continuing to grow. There are now 74 children at the Home with 215 folk being fed and cared for each day which is equal to the number that Miss Falconer cared for in her day.

Once again we can only **express our grateful thanks** to all those who have continued to assist the Home in so many ways. We were almost overwhelmed with the Harvest gifts that have come in from over 40 Churches and Schools and we thank the individuals, groups and both the Inner Wheel and Rotary Clubs for their donations and for the continued supply of baby bundles, foodstuffs, dried milk, sweets and for the news that The Rotary Club of Chigwell together with other Clubs and the Foundation are well on in procuring for the Home a submersible pump. Simon has just sent a letter in which he thanks everyone on behalf of the whole family for the gifts and for the financial help that makes it possible for the goods to be sent out to them by air freight, and we have just sent off another batch of 50 parcels.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Owing to Simon's absence whilst he was ill, the several projects at the Home have all been affected but they are progressing again now and we trust that with everyone's help they will continue towards making themselves more self supporting – more precise news later!

The rains have started in Zambia so they are beginning to plough, ready to plant their maize and they are still using the tractor that Hanwell Rotary Club provided. Unfortunately, the rains are also bringing out the snakes – a large python came after the rabbits, Simon had a smaller black mamba at this doorstep and next day he ran over a spitting cobra.

One of our sons has put a photo album of the Home's children on the Internet – the key is:-
<http://communities.msn.co.uk/thefalconerchildrenshome>

We join Simon and the family in wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Henry and Rene Webb



Ploughing time again