



The Challenges Continue

But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy.

*Spread your protection over them,
that those who love your name may rejoice in you.*

Psalm 5:11

Everyone at the Falconer Home continues to face a wide range of challenges. The coronavirus pandemic, building repairs, the provision of electricity and water, and issues surrounding the parcels all present day-to-day difficulties. As the scripture verse above reminds us, however, they can find refuge in a God who will protect them, provide for them and pour out His love and compassion on them.

One great and urgent challenge is the need to replace the roof of the main house. In recent years it has been patched up, but it has become apparent that it is necessary to replace the entire roof. As the current roof is believed to be made of asbestos, experts have been called in to ensure that it is removed safely. It will be replaced with tin roofing sheets, and the wooden roof trusses will be replaced with steel ones. Before work can begin the children who sleep in the main house must be accommodated elsewhere, so work is currently taking place to prepare other buildings for this purpose. The entire project must be completed before the rainy season begins in October, so there is a real sense of urgency.



Because of the importance and urgency of this, other projects have had to be put on hold. The generator installation is still progressing, however, with cable being laid from the generator house to the main house and the boys' dormitory.

Other Building Work

A toilet block is being constructed near to the boys' dormitory. This is one of the improvements which the social services have required the Home to undertake. The main structure of the building is in place, and will be completed as soon as is practicable, given all of the other works which are ongoing.



The new toilet block

New Video Update

A new 7 ½ -minute video has been produced, with up to date news on the Home, and matters for prayer. Please feel free to show this video in your church or midweek group, and share the link with those who you feel may be interested. You can access the video in any of the following ways:

- 1) Follow this link: <https://youtu.be/F2dtGUjP7Sg>
- 2) Go to our website and click on the link under the heading 'July 2021 Video Update'
- 3) Go to YouTube, and type 'Falconer Children's Home Update July 2021' into the search box.



Parcels

The Falconer Trust are now able to send parcels to the Falconer Home, last year's paperwork issues having been resolved. There are still difficulties, however, as the Zambian Revenue Authority has changed systems and procedures for customs clearance, and this has caused delays to the batches of parcels sent since the beginning of the year. The Staff at the Home are working to understand the new procedures, and we trust that soon parcels will be able to be transported without delays at the Zambian border.

We currently have a large quantity of clothing and blankets ready to send, but would be very grateful to receive donations of food (rice, pasta, oats, tinned meat, fish and baked beans), toiletries and stationery.

Coronavirus Latest

June and July has seen a surge in new cases and deaths in Zambia, with 3316 deaths as of 27th July. The vaccine programme has progressed significantly in the last month, with 1.9% of adults having received a first dose, and 0.6% having received a second dose. Zambia is nevertheless in the bottom 20 countries in the world in terms of percentage of the population vaccinated.



The virus is now in evidence far more locally to the Home, with Kabompo hospital caring for many Covid patients. Please continue to pray for all at the Home, and in the community of Kabulamema.

Simon

Simon has had a very difficult year so far in terms of his health. February saw him hospitalised with severe pneumonia and a hernia. He may also have contracted Covid-19, though with conflicting test results we cannot be certain. Since returning to the Home he has also suffered from malaria, but he is now back to his normal duties, overseeing the various projects which are ongoing.

Visits



As Covid-19 restrictions are relaxed, and churches are meeting again, Neil is resuming deputation visits. If you would like him to come and speak at your church, midweek group, or other meeting, please get in touch.

As one would expect, coronavirus travel restrictions have meant that it has not been possible to plan a trip to the Falconer Home again this year.

Please Pray...

- ... for the replacement of the roof before the rainy season begins
- ... for the other ongoing projects, including the generator and the toilet block
- ... for the health and wellbeing of Simon, the staff and all of the children
- ... for a resolution to the difficulties concerning the shipment of parcels
- ... for the work of the Trust here in the UK



The vegetable garden



Simon, Miriam, Ruthie, Annabel, Kelvin

Thank You

A very big thank you to all who have supported the work in some way, whether through prayer, finance, donation of goods or any other way. May God bless you richly for your efforts on behalf of the children.

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