



## Charity Begins at Home 2016

*Community and Education Projects*



**THE BUSHCAMP COMPANY**  
SOUTH LUANGWA NATIONAL PARK ZAMBIA



## charity begins at home

*Welcome to our Newsletter - Dec 2016*

**Hello, once again, to all our friends and supporters...from everyone at The Bushcamp Company...**

As another year draws to a close we thought it was time to give you all an update on our various community projects and activities funded through 'Charity Begins at Home'.

As many of you know, we have several well established, ongoing projects that continue to make a big difference to the daily lives of the local people...especially in our three sponsored schools...

- Sponsorship of over 300 children to attend schools and colleges.
- Payment of teachers' salaries
- Maintenance of school buildings
- Provision of equipment and books
- Donation of prizes to school children each term

Thanks are due to Fiona, Veronica and Beauty who not only handle all the day to day administration, but also keep a motherly eye on the hundreds of children who benefit from our funding.

As the school year is almost ending, many children are now eagerly awaiting the results of examinations...especially those in Grade 12 who could possibly go on to further education.

*We are always looking at ways to improve the educational opportunities for the local community...and with this in mind we are pleased to announce that...*

### **A Major New Project gets the Go-ahead**

With the help of our donor partners, funds have been secured to commence work on building an assembly/dining hall at Mfuwe Day Secondary School. The hall will provide a much needed large, indoor area for all kinds of school activities...

A site has been identified, plans have been drawn up, and work has already started on bringing in the many tons of sand and cement that will be needed to lay the foundations.

This is a very ambitious and costly project, but when completed in 2017 it will significantly improve the infrastructure of this rapidly growing secondary school.

### **Commit to Clean Water**

During the past few months our project to provide safe, clean drinking water to local villages has gone from strength to strength. Suitable sites have been identified in areas of most need and drilling has continued throughout the year. There is no doubt that this initiative has already benefitted hundreds of local people, with each borehole supplying water to dozens of households. To date we have now drilled 44 deep boreholes, with at least another 10 planned for 2017.

*This project is truly a lifesaver...*



## Commit to Clean Water (cont.)

### Did you know...?

- In the past ten years, diarrhoeal diseases, related to unsanitary water, have killed more children than all the people lost to armed conflict since WWII.
- At any one time, it is estimated that half the world's hospital beds are occupied with patients suffering from waterborne diseases.

In Zambia alone, around 5 million people, over one third of the population, lack access to safe, clean water. Around 7 million people, more than half of the population, lack access to proper sanitation facilities. Inadequate water and sanitation is a major cause of death and disease, reducing a community's ability to thrive and develop.

With your help we are doing all we can to literally save lives in the local community.

### Our Annual School Calendar

Utilizing the artistic talents of our local school children we have produced another fund raising calendar, though this year we decided to use it to showcase our "Commit to Clean Water" project.

The children were asked to illustrate the ways in which the new boreholes had improved their lives, and they certainly rose to the task! Assisted by well-known Zambian artist Mulenga Chafilwa, they produced some excellent paintings.

Many children chose to show how their lives had become safer through no longer having to trek long distances to rivers and waterholes where they could potentially meet dangerous animals, or where water might be polluted. Others chose to illustrate the benefits to their villages, where crops could be watered and people could concentrate on more productive activities whilst leading healthier lives

### Meal-a- Day

The "Meal-a- Day" programme continues to provide a daily lunch to all children at Chiwawatala Primary School and Mfuwe Secondary School. We are now feeding over 2000 children daily.

This has proved to be an extremely worthwhile and well received initiative. Head teachers report that children are really gaining many tangible benefits from receiving a daily, nutritious meal. Attendance continues to improve whilst academic performance, concentration and energy levels are increased.

### Tree Planting

It is a sad fact, as human populations grow, that many parts of the world are very quickly being de-forested. The Luangwa Valley is no exception, but several initiatives are underway to combat the destruction of local woodlands. Inspiring children to conserve their natural heritage is something we promote in our sponsored schools. Planting new trees around the schools is just one way of doing this.

We have been regularly planting seedlings for a number of years and in 2016 we added another 300 trees...250 at Mfuwe Day Secondary School and 50 at Chiwawatala Basic School. Further planting is planned to take place during the annual rains.

### Guest Visits to the Schools and Projects

Many of our guests express an interest in the community projects that we support, so we are always happy to take them to see for themselves the work that we are doing.

One such guest was American "supermodel" Arizona Muse, who took a great interest in the ways we are trying to improve the education of girls. The girls certainly took an interest in her!





## Thank you to all our “partners”

Our charitable projects could not be sustained without the help and support of many people. We value the kindness and generosity of you all, especially the contributions made by our ‘partner’ charities:

*Dazzle Africa*

*Sausage Tree Charity*

*Austria Kids*

*The Dreike Education Fund*

*The U foundation*

Thanks also to Alison Mackenzie for designing our newsletters!

**Finally we should like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous and Happy New Year...!**

**[www.thebushcampcompany.com](http://www.thebushcampcompany.com)**

**[www.charity-begins-at-home.com](http://www.charity-begins-at-home.com)**

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