

Newsletter: Sept. 2011



Helping vulnerable children

Together we can make an immediate difference to children's lives.

www.newhopenortheast.com



This first year of operation, New Hope has supported 3 groups of orphaned or disabled children in Zimbabwe, a country where many of the larger children's charities have ceased to operate.

Orphans have received items of school uniform and school equipment - essential to being able to attend school in Zimbabwe; plus shoes and general clothing. At the request of The Parents of children with disabilities and special needs - toys, books, play equipment and a CD player were sent for use in their meeting centre, as well as shoes, general clothing, disposable nappies and aids.

Last Christmas, we sent individual gifts to 32 children. We intend to do the same again this year.

Christmas Appeal by Maggie Tate

*A large box arrived at church,
big enough for my brother to sleep in -
it was from New Hope UK.
Pastor said, 'This parcel is for you,
Munashe, it's yours - take it'.
My first-ever-parcel had arrived.
The paper was so very nice.
It was red with pictures of a man -
an old man, with a white beard.
I held my parcel for a long time -
trying to smell the stranger
who thought of me, and sent a gift.*

Would you like to donate a gift this year?

In August, a NH member visited Zimbabwe, and met two of the 3 groups we are supporting. It was heartening to hear that they have truly appreciated the items we have sent, however small. But it was distressing to learn from The Parents Group that many of their children are severely disabled, requiring 24/7 care - preventing mothers working to alleviate their poverty; and sadly that the culture and community often ridicules rather than helps them.

The Parents Group need 6 wheelchairs. NH hopes to locate 'no-longer needed chairs'- particularly folding ones - to send out to these children, whose parents - often mothers - currently have to carry them on their backs because they have no alternative.

Do you know of a chair in workable condition that might be donated, or sold at a reasonable price?

Now in its second year of operation, New Hope has successfully engaged in small scale fundraising activities; established a website; opened a bank account and drafted a constitution with charitable aims; begun to network with other organisations. New Hope continues to discuss how best to develop future sustainability and realise its longer-term projects:

- establishing projects for vulnerable children with disabilities in the north-east of England.
- helping The Parents Group in Harare start a school for children with special needs;
- supporting Pastor Betty feed, clothe & educate the 16 orphans she has taken in;
- repairing the Chibano Orphanage.

WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS in order to undertake these local projects for vulnerable children; while continuing to support existing groups in Zimbabwe.

Do you have skills, knowledge or ideas to share?

Are you unemployed and need work experience?

Have a few hours to spare - to help out at local fundraising events?

Want to feel part of something, do something useful in the community with others?

If the answer is YES, to any of the above, please speak to one of us directly; check us out at www.newhopenortheast.com; Or email us at newhopenortheast@gmail.com