Winsley Village PROJECT

Midsummer Update

James Colquhoun

Come Dine with Us – Safari Supper

A good time was had by all back in June when 90 people took part in what was the 28th safari supper in support of WVP's 3 charities. As a result of fundraising in 2017 so far, we are now in a position to send £2,500 to both *Just a Drop* and *Hope & Homes for Children* - see below for details of how the money will be spent:

New Project - Minkwempe School and Community, Zambia

Minkwempe, a small community located in the Kashitu area of Zambia, is a remote village requiring a journey north of over 4 hours from Lusaka, the capital. There is no access to either safe water or a local health service.

A new ***Just a Drop*** project has just been agreed, funded exclusively by Winsley Village Project, to make a real difference with the people of Minkwempe by:

- Forming a Water & Sanitation Committee, selected by the residents of Minkwempe
- Drilling a deep borehole well, to reach some clean water
- Building a hand pump, to extract water throughout the year
- Training the community in maintenance, repair and sustainability
- Educating the community in basic principles of health & hygiene

Women and children currently follow custom by walking daily some distance knowingly to fetch unsafe water leading to high risk of personal danger and disease. The benefits of having clean water will be far-reaching:

- Children will be able to arrive at school on time and with safe water for their own use
- Women will be able to make more productive use of time in their work, village and home

- Quality of life will be improved by securing better health through preventative measures
- Greater sense of control will be achieved through visible self-help compared to dependency on aid relief at times of emergency
- Future prospects will be enhanced as a result of resource ownership and management

In recent years, Winsley Village Project has successfully enabled similar work in a Ugandan village followed by development of a rainwater-harvesting tank in a Kenyan school. With two thirds of the target funds now secure, as a result of the recent donation, *Just a Drop* is now in a position to proceed with this new project in Minkwempe – another life changing opportunity linking two very different villages across the world.

100 up - Old Closures and New Beginnings

Recent closure of their 100th orphanage, as a result of the intervention strategy led by ***Hope and Homes for Children***, is a significant milestone for this locally based charity (East Clyffe, near Salisbury). Working with children's services in Eastern Europe and certain African nations, the cold austerity of large institutions is being replaced by the loving care of adopting/foster parents or through supported reunion of families otherwise in crisis. From Romania to Rwanda, new policy and guidance are being provided to improve dramatically the life chances of children previously abandoned in deprived circumstances.

Due to WVP's fundraising over the last 6 months, there will be 100 vulnerable mothers and family-based carers receiving 'new baby packs' – nappies, creams, clothes, toys and bedding etc. Such gifts will help to facilitate a new beginning for young children after a desperately poor start in life.

Future events:

Have a go, feel free to take part and enjoy the following over the coming months – everyone very welcome:

Family Treasure Hunt	Saturday 16 September at 3.00 pm
Annual Autumn Fair	Saturday 18 November 10 am till noon