



Zimbabwe – May to July 2010

Colin and Laura were privileged to spend 9 weeks in Harare from 22nd May through to the end of July and during this time we attended the Joyce Meyer Ministries (JMM) Festival of Life! The Festival of Life was awesome – I guess that is the only way to describe the feeling of being in a crowd of 210 000+ people all singing and praying to God for Him to do a mighty work in the land!

We were truly blessed to be able to visit Chikirubi Prison Farm along with part of the JMM Team and to be able to hand out hygiene gift packs and books to the inmates on behalf of her Hand of Hope ministry.

We also visited several other farm prisons to minister with people from the Foundations for Farming (formerly Farming God's Way) project, Alpha Zimbabwe and The Michael Project which operates out of Greystone Park Fellowship and we met with the Director and the Chairman of the Board of Directors for Prison Fellowship Zimbabwe. We hope to work alongside all these wonderful people in the future.

There wasn't a day during our 9 weeks that we were not amazed and blessed by the people in Zimbabwe. There is truly nowhere like it.

We visited a variety of different places including a youth centre for those who are orphaned, abandoned, unwanted and/or vulnerable. The youth were hungry for companionship and a hug!

We also visited a couple of children's homes. In one there were many, many children and it was encouraging to see that it was very clean and tidy. It is a lack of funding and resources that seems to be the greatest obstacle for these places and with commitment and financial backing one could see so many lives turned around and potential being achieved.

It is very sad indeed to look into the eyes of a child, whether the very young or those at the

end of their high school career and see the hopelessness that comes from lack of choice! Speaking to the children and youth – they each have a dream! We listened to the dreams of those wishing to become pilots, doctors, lawyers, accountants...if only..., if only...!

We went along with a lady to visit patients at Parirenyatwa. She was distributing knitted goods, made by the lady's in her community women's group, to children and adults in the eye clinics and the children's ward. There are no words to describe the connection one human being makes with another in those circumstances. A child with a neuroblastoma, awaiting surgery where her eyeball was to be removed, holding out her little hands to receive a knitted teddy bear and then hugging it close for comfort!

There were very sad times, a young father dying of HIV/Aids, his relatives taking away all his worldly possessions as soon as news of his death was made known and leaving his wife and children with little if anything. News that maternal mortality is the highest in the world and that more than a third of all children suffer from chronic under-nutrition. We heard tell of high rates of prostitution in the schools - sugar-daddies seducing young girls and they giving away their innocence for a few dollars.

Hideous reports of little boys and little girls being taken out of the country by unscrupulous people wanting to prostitute them during the World Cup in South Africa - but then the good reports that police roadblocks had been ordered to actively search vehicles for those being trafficked!

Statistics that now say the average life expectancy of adults in Zimbabwe has fallen below 35 years of age! We heard a doctor pronounce that for men it is 34 and for women 32!





However, for every sad story one heard more stories of hope, of miracles, of strength and fortitude in the face of mountainous challenges, of communities working together and taking care of each other. Of humanity doing what it is supposed to do – loving each other!

We saw a vehicle belonging to an insurance company taking guys out to fix the potholes on a major road. We saw a group of guys trying to get a huge generator up a steep set of stairs and the crowd helping out and giving advice. A man under a tree helping an old lady whose vehicle had broken down. People who will walk miles and miles to make a meeting, people who will invite you to dinner and feed you a feast even though they are widowed and don't have an income other than what they make buy peddling sweets and other such goods. Polite, cheerful service at the tills in TM and Spar. The incredible wealth of talent as showcased at the Borrowdale Craft Fair. French lessons, art and poetry still available at Alliance Francaise!

The 'people' of Zimbabwe are a mighty people, a victorious people, a people belonging to God. They have discovered what is important, they have found that they can have all material goods stripped away and still smile, still laugh, still sing and dance and be full of joy, they have discovered the truth of the scripture in Nehemiah 8:10b Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.

They survive and they survive well, they are joyful, they are resilient, they are focussed and determined. They have learned to forgive and they have learned to extend grace. They are committed to their God and their nation and they are making a difference.

Is this paradise?
No – but it 'feels' darn close to it!

Until next time

God bless you all

Colin and Laura Shreenan

A Great Day out Rafting with Splash White Water Rafting in Aberfeldy



On Sunday 29th August 2010 a total of 18 intrepid souls (from a variety of places such as Coatbridge, Falkirk, Alloa and Crieff) gathered to go rafting. The purpose of the event was to raise funds to send a container out to Zimbabwe containing donated goods to meet needs within the various aims and objectives of A2ZWWW.

All monies are yet to be received in but we do believe at least £1500 has been raised and this is a great effort by all who took part and all those wonderful people who said they would sponsor!

Thankfully we had sunshine that day but the wind was up and the temperature was not what one might call comfortable. The river itself is very peaceful for the most part, with stunning vistas, with the most exciting rapids coming right at the very end.

At the end, there were no complaints heard, not even about the cold which was causing some of the girls to shiver in an alarming manner - just an ecstatic bunch of voices commenting as to how much fun it had all been after-all and when plans to re-run the event next year were voiced there were no refusals or objections – in fact perhaps even the odd voiced desire to go on the River Tummel next time, a river which promises more action with steeper descents and greater excitement!





SPONSORING AN ORPHAN
will change both their life and yours for the better – for ever!

Each of the children on the pictures is an orphan and is hoping for a sponsor.

£15 per month will make the world of difference to an orphan child. It will provide enough money to pay for school fees, will purchase a uniform and allow for a medical check-up as well as enabling access to medical care when required.

A relationship will be established between you and the child you sponsor and you will receive communication as well as copies of school reports, etc.

Please contact us if you are keen to sponsor a child, however if you would like to help somehow but cannot manage £15 per month please don't NOT help but rather make a donation, whether a one off or a regular amount into the Charity's bank account and know that even £2 per month can make a significant difference, especially when added to other people's donations!



THANK YOU!

Honest Kameya

is 10 years old and has a sponsor from Scotland.



Because Honest has a sponsor he attends school, has a school uniform and other necessary items for school and he has also had a medical check-up.

During the recent winter his guardian was able to buy a blanket for Honest.

Through the support of his sponsor Honest has a greater hope for his future!

On behalf of Honest and A2Z World Without Walls we would like to say a very big thank you to Jackie for deciding to make a difference and for saving a starfish!





CHADA - Chinotimba Home for Aged and Destitute Association

A ramshackle group of buildings, in various states of disrepair, is called home by 15 full-time elderly residents.

Each resident is destitute and many also have other marginalising conditions such as blindness or mental illness. These precious folk have no recourse to quality health care and they live on a meagre and limited diet. The food they do receive is due to the kindness of local businesses and well-wishers.

Whilst there is no meaningful subsidisation of the facility we have been told that local Churches got together and painted the buildings at CHADA and we have also been told that there is some hope that electricity will be installed at some point in the future – this is all due to the intervention and assistance of the local community deciding to make a difference.

The residents of CHADA expressed their desire to A2ZWWW to establish a vegetable garden in order to be able to feed themselves and asked if we would buy them a wheelbarrow and other gardening implements – we were happy and honoured to be able to do so!

Thank you for the part you played in making it possible to respond positively to their request!

Both pictures show two of the volunteers who help care for the residents of CHADA and the new wheelbarrow, etc.



List of other projects supported by A2Z WWW

[Victoris Falls – Provincial Hospital & Chinotimba Clinic](#)

[Araunah Mission Fellowship Zimbabwe](#)

[Owen Renias Orphanage](#)

[Library Project](#)

[Home Sweet Home Feeding Centre](#)

[Covenant Fellowship Church](#)

[Education in Victoria Falls](#)

[New Growth Ministries](#)

[Fountain of Hope](#)

[Tony Waite Foundation](#)

[Parienyatwas General Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit](#)

[Prisons \(in Zimbabwe and Scotland\)](#)

[CYVAT – Christian Youth Volunteers Association](#)





UPCOMING EVENTS

- *****HELP GET THE CONTAINER TO ZIM*****

At the moment A2Z WWW is gathering equipment and resources to help meet educational and health needs in Zimbabwe. If you have items to donate for the container, please contact us as soon as possible. However even more important at this stage is the need for the money to send the container. We have raised £2500 – thanks to all who have worked so hard to do this - and need a further £3000 so please, please, please spare us your pennies and your pounds to help make this happen!

The deadline for sending this container is 31 October 2010. We will only have one day to load the container and if you are available and willing to help load it please get in touch so we can let you know which day it will be arriving! We will need all the help we can get!

- *****BUNGEE *** BUNGEE *** BUNGEE *** BUNGEE *** BUNGEE *** BUNGEE *****

Go on you know you want to!

Jackie McIntosh of Grangemouth is hosting a sponsored Bungee Jump on behalf of A2ZWWW and this is due to take place on the 13th November at Xscape, Braehead. A minimum of £100 is needed to be eligible to jump, of which £50 will go to pay for the jump. Please get in touch if you are interested or know someone who is interested or would like to sponsor someone to do the jump!

- *****RACE NIGHT *** RACE NIGHT ***RACE NIGHT***RACE NIGHT *** RACE NIGHT *****

The date is not yet set, but in the near future A2Z WWW will host a race night. This promises to be a great evening out, full of fun, banter and you can win prizes too!

THE BIG MOVE SOUTH OF THE EQUATOR!

Colin and Laura are moving to Harare, Zimbabwe and they believe they will be far more effective on the ground, so to speak. They will live and work in Harare and arrange to do regular trips out to rural areas. They hope to be able to return to the UK every 12 to 18 months and will travel around to report back to supporters and to share about all they see and do!

A2ZWWW does an important work and there is no way we would want to see it fail in its quest to save starfish and make a difference. The work that it does relies on you – the supporter. You are extremely important to all the people that A2ZWWW touches in Zimbabwe. Without you and your contribution their lives would be harder and have much less opportunity and choice in it. 155 children are able to attend school because of what you do so please don't stop! Please consider making a regular monthly contribution whether that be £2/£5/£10 or US\$5/\$10. This will ensure the perpetuity of what has been started and how exciting will it be when the first children who have been sponsored actually manage to finish school and can read and write to boot!





CONTACTS

Unfortunately our email address promotions@a2zworldwithoutwalls.co.uk has been blocked from sending emails although it can still receive mail into it. We have received a wonderful offer from a very generous supporter who will be rebuilding and hosting our new site. This requires a lot of work and effort and time is very short right now so we are hoping that we will be able to get it up and running before we leave! The web address will remain www.a2zworldwithoutwalls.co.uk.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP, JOIN IN OR SPONSOR AN ORPHAN THEN...

PLEASE EMAIL US VIA ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

makingadifference@a2zworldwithoutwalls.co.uk;

info@a2zworldwithoutwalls.co.uk

colinandlaurashreenan@yahoo.co.uk.

Alternatively give us a call on mobile no.: +44 (0)7834 474313

WANTED URGENTLY!

We need fundraisers!

Please would you think about how you could do something to raise the profile of the charity and also to raise money. Whether it be a girls night out, a Body Shop night, a sponsored event like a walk or a race, how about just offering to shake a can outside a supermarket (with permission of course!!!).

Would you host a table at a car boot sale every week? How about selling baked goods or having a fun activities day for the family? Run a premier night for a movie or host a cheese and wine evening. How about a stall at a conference? A young girl in England managed to raise over £500 by doing a sponsored walk and a 'guess the weight of this cake' at her school! It doesn't matter how old you are or how big or how small – just so long as you have a passion to help those less fortunate there is nothing that can stop you from making a difference. Kym – we salute you!!!

Perhaps you would like to think about how you could carve yourself a niche job by becoming a full-time fundraiser for A2ZWWW. If you think you have what it takes and are willing to create your own position and income then get in touch and let's have a chat.

