



## **EA visit report 16-24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 to our Chita Primary School Project. Exilda Mungulube & Alan Shand**

Purpose: to continue Chita school project support, aims and objectives post-Covid. Whilst writer's last visit was in 2018, new people are responsible in key positions of authority

Wed 16<sup>th</sup>: depart 12 noon m/c to Terminal 4 Heathrow 2pm, depart 5.25pm to Lusaka via Nairobi Kenya

Thu 17<sup>th</sup>: arrive Lusaka am, collected by Exilda's family, overnight at Nancy for bus next day

Fri 18<sup>th</sup>: 4am bus to Mpika, arrive 2pm and greeted by Wilbroad (Mark Malama Mungulube), met Yully Silomba. We were too late to visit school, they had closed. Plan was also to visit Chief Chickwanda, he was out of area. Friday evening brief interview with Yully at ICL, itinerary prepared to optimise visit, Chaperoned by Yully asked for fuel monies, we updated him of our aims of no costs borne by project, which he agreed in future.

Sat 19<sup>th</sup>: met Wilbroad and Fr Chomba, Fr Michael at Lwitikila girls school (motto 'arrive to learn, leave to serve'). Saturday evening dinner with 14 guests of community, elder statesmen, community & school representatives incl new Department of Education Board Secretary (DEBS). (although 20 were invited, communication failure by team to some) Yully introduced, speeches from village headman, DBS and responses from Alan as way forward

Sun 20<sup>th</sup>: church services both 7am at Tazara then 10.30am at Chibansa. Introduced to congregation as Chita within parish. Chita deputy head was also there. Offered to refresh Chibansa's church internals

Mon 22<sup>nd</sup>: ran to school met teachers and children 7.20am, warmly welcomed then ran back to change for our meeting with new DEBS Rodgers Mtumayo ( Jobbicks was his mentor and worked with Yully) Rodgers encouraged continuation of collaboration + growth of our present relationship. Met with his building officer also to discuss requirements including electrification supply, Alice asked to liaise direct with Zesco. Met the DSWO regarding EA registered charity in Zambia who explained process, he checked my passport being a trustee in Zambia (agreed post visit) one other UK trustee sought. Jan or Keith?

Tue 23<sup>rd</sup>: Arrived at school for ground breaking ceremony, parents, pupils, teachers and dignitaries present, agenda of singing, tribal dancing, speeches, poetry, assurances and collaborations welcomed, much energy from all with EA's presence to resume our charity's post Covid support. A new 2014 plaque unveiling ceremony was performed with new DEBS,



to loud applause, it was agreed for school teachers/dept to prepare a plaque sketch and have alongside our joint venture. A separate tour of Phase 2 was shown to DEBS and his team, ie. Foundation trenches dug by villagers for proposed 1 x 5 classroom block for Secondary school, of which he was unaware

Pls note, a post ceremony meeting held in school to ascertain new 1 x 1 classroom block project committee and new bank account signatories. An inspection of school revealed many broken glass panes, the village headman was reminded of obligation and agreed to repair all windows that week. (limited committee notes forwarded to Exilda for review)

Wed 24<sup>th</sup>: depart ICL 6am, finally return to Lusaka on 7.30am bus, arrive 6.30pm, collected by and evening meal at Nancy's, then to airport for early morning flight, Exilda staying with her family until 2023.

Thu 25<sup>th</sup>: 2.30am departure to London Heathrow via Nairobi Kenya, arrive LHR 4pm, m/c trip home slowly in wet conditions about 6.30pm ( 38hrs door to door) Overall, an overdue productive enriching and uplifting trustee visit, which I felt strongly we signify hope for their futures, Praise the Lord.

Summary: build plan start after rainy season ie. after Easter, further £14,000 required by then to commence - Yully Silomba, - Fr Chomba- team dinner at ICL, assurances- Tazara, and Chibansa church service & introduced- ran to school, met teachers, met DEBS, electricity, private chat+ gift - met DSWO registration of EA, foundation ceremony with DEBS- EA charity application & nominees, constitution req'd- Zambian bank account signatories- project community committee old & new, list of names- shared builders- 1x2 classroom construction drawings- electrical schematics & BOQ- Plaque for teachers