

Changing Lives in Chongwe Charity No. 1106904 anngreenh@gmail.com

Dear Friends of CLinC,

As I write this we are all enjoying a patch of summer sunshine and warmth. However, Zambia is in the cool season and although many days will have temperatures similar to our summer, there will be no rain at all and the nights are much cooler.

The lower temperatures may explain the recent rise in Covid cases. Hospitals are now overwhelmed and restrictions on movement are being re-introduced. Vaccines are available but so far only 0.1% of the population have been fully vaccinated. Over 2,700 cases were recorded on June 14th but the majority of the township people will not have been tested. We have not heard of any cases in our schools this year.

The value of the kwacha continues to fall and consequently prices of imported items are rising. For this reason, CLinC has decided to continue paying the monthly teachers' pay as well as providing two meals a week for all children at both St Anne's and St Mark's schools.



These are some of the pupils at St Anne's school enjoying their meal.

Teacher training Two of the teachers, Janet and Martha, are now fully trained and three more, Kelvin, Wendy and Charity, graduate at the end of 2021. This will leave two other teachers, Alice and Mary, to complete their final year in 2022. We are very pleased to have been able to give these young people a training that will hopefully improve their lives and the lives of hundreds of their pupils.

At the moment all parental contributions are being used to cover school expenses such as electricity, chlorine for water treatment, chalks, pens etc. When funds allow, CLinC will sent money for more textbooks.

I am pleased to be able to tell you about a **new classroom project at St Anne's School.**

Back in 2009, St Anne's Anglican Community school held its first classes in St Anne's church. Children from poor families in the local area were able to attend without having to pay school fees. If families could afford it, a small parental contribution was paid to the school. The church pews were rearranged and second hand blackboards were attached to the walls. The teachers were young members of the congregation with no qualifications apart from their own schooling. Their desire was to give these children a basic education.

CLinC has supported the school now for twelve years. Text books, teachers' guides and play equipment were the first necessities. Numbers of children grew and in 2010 CLinC funded the building of a two-classroom block with storeroom, staffroom and toilet block. Four of the trustees were able to be there for the official opening of the classrooms by the Bishop of Lusaka.



In the foreground can be seen the foundations of the new, larger church that they were planning to build. This has taken them many years. During that time lessons have continued to be held inside the old church and services on Sundays too!

Building classrooms at St Anne's in 2010

The demand for primary education in the area around the school is great and numbers of children at St Anne's soon grew to over 300.

To cope with this, two school sessions have been held each day but more classrooms are desperately needed.

The partly built new church can be seen here.



Three classes were taught inside the dimly lit old church while the new church was built around it. Desks were taken in on Mondays and removed on Fridays so that it could also be used for Sunday services.



The old church was then demolished and at last the roof is now on the new church. The floor is being laid but lessons have continued to be held there. This photo shows the size of the new church!

These buildings and piece of land next to the school were acquired in 2019, just before Covid struck.



It is now planned to convert part of these buildings into classrooms and then repair the remaining houses which will be let to local people and bring in a small regular income for the school.

The plan is to repair walls, insert new secure windows and doors and re-roof where necessary. Over the last year they have managed to raise K20,000 (around £650) towards this. A further £1,600 is required for materials and labour. Once the money is available, the renovation is predicted to take around four weeks to complete. A project group has been set up to oversee the build.

CLinC has managed to send £1,000 towards this. Here are some of the materials arriving. The newly built St Anne's church is to the left of this picture, next to St Anne's school.



We are now working to raise the remaining £600. These are our plans -

1. We are having a jam and craft stall at **Almondsbury Horse Show** on Sunday July 4th.
2. Two **Mothers' Union talks** are provisionally booked for July, but we are awaiting confirmation that they are going ahead. We take jams and crafts for sale to members following these talks.
3. Jams and facemasks continue to be sold at **Cromhall Shop**.
4. We hope to hold **Brass on the Grass** later in the summer, Covid and the availability of the band allowing.

I am certain that we will manage it!

Thank you all for your continued interest and support.

Without you, we couldn't do it.

Ann on behalf of trustees of CLinC – June 2021