

WELCOME BOXES for Romania

Mustard Seed Jersey are inviting people to help Romanian victims of people trafficking by packing a Welcome Box (details below)

Rose Helie explains:

The project came about as a result of our contact with Dorina, a good long-standing friend, a Romanian social worker employed by the Romanian government to arrange the repatriation of trafficked victims, then to assist them with restarting their lives, arranging new identities if needed and liaising with the authorities for the court cases against the traffickers. She is responsible for the victims in 3 counties (There are about 44 counties or areas in Romania, so it is a very large area she has responsibility for). On average over several hundred victims are repatriated to this one area of Romania each year. When the victims are repatriated there are always police enquiries and usually court cases against the traffickers, sometimes for their own protection the victims are given new identities. The Welcome boxes will help them to start again.

Update

By mid May there has been an encouraging amount of interest shown in the project and a total of 45 welcome boxes had been received, the first 25 were sent to Romania on the spring aid lorry. Mustard Seed Jersey's target is approximately 300 - this should be sufficient to provide a welcome box for every victim repatriated through our contact social worker in a twelve month period.

Mustard Seed asks that all welcome boxes should be ready by early July to ensure they can be loaded on the late summer/early autumn aid lorry to ensure that the Welcome boxes are kept separate from Christmas shoeboxes on the planned December aid lorry to avoid any possible confusion.



A Homegroup of St. Matthews Church pack a welcome box

It would help a newly repatriated victim to be given a WELCOME BOX.

In the box there were should be toiletries, soap, shampoo, body wash, toothbrush, toothpaste, hand-cream, face flannel, towel, washing powder, underwear (pants and socks), notebook, pens, writing paper & envelopes, sewing kit, hair brush, for women sanitary towels or tampons, for men razor, and other things to help and encourage.

- Please try to pack the box as if it were for your own mother or sister or daughter who has just returned from a terrifying ordeal.
- Please use boot box (we feel a normal shoe box is too small).
- On the lid of the box please put label to say **Welcome Box**.

Also please indicate sex & size (Male or Female Small / Medium / Large)

- Please include £3 donation towards the cost of transport. Please put the donation in an envelope and place it on top of the contents of the box. Attach the lid with large rubber bands or string so the transport donation can be removed easily when we collect the box.
- Our collection places are the following churches:

All Saints Church Mon-Sat 10-12;
St Mary's Church Mon-Sat 10-5;
St Peter's Church Mon-Fri 9-5;
St Luke's Church mornings of Tue, Wed, Thu.

Because of the cost involved in packing a box, it is recommended that Welcome Boxes should be packed by a group rather than an

individual. Cost per box reckoned to be £40+
Email Address: mustardseed@jerseymail.co.uk
Website: www.mustardseedjersey.co.uk



Unloading March 2010

Victims of People Trafficking

Rose Helie told this story about a trip to Romania with her husband in December to distribute the Mustard Seed Jersey Christmas shoeboxes and other aid.

This year for the first time we sent a small amount of aid to repatriated victims of people trafficking. Our contact is Dorina, a social worker with responsibility for assisting the rescued victims of people trafficking. She has responsibility for this in a comparatively large area in Romania. Dorina told us how much joy the Christmas shoeboxes we had sent for the victims had given and also how overjoyed the victims were at the general aid we sent especially the disposable nappies and toiletries.

Fast growing crime

Dorina spoke of her work and how emotionally draining it is to deal with people who have been trafficked. People trafficking is now recognised as the fastest growing crime. The common story is that an impoverished young woman is promised a well paid job in the west if she will allow the traffickers to make arrangements. But when she arrives she often finds her passport is kept from her and she has no option but to work for little money, sometimes if she complains she is threatened that her family back home in Romania may be harmed. Dorina spoke of how it destroys the sense of self-value and self-confidence of the victim. She told us that her experience of working with the Romanian victims is that the most common trafficking is abuse through work, more rare but extremely distressing is sexual abuse.

A happy ending

Dorina then told us of one recent case that had a happy ending for one young woman - we'll call her Lisa to protect her identity. Lisa was a young Romanian student studying in the city where Dorina is based. Lisa lived away from home but phoned her mother every day without fail. One day she and two friends were invited to meet others at a juice bar in the town, there they were drugged. Unable to defend themselves, after false passports were made, they were whisked over to Holland.

But Lisa's mother realised something was seriously wrong, as her daughter had not phoned and was not responding to her phone-calls,

so the mother travelled to the city and insisted and insisted that the police MUST investigate. Using their contacts the police managed to get Lisa released and returned to Romania. Sadly Lisa's two friends are still away, as they did not have mothers who alerted the authorities and persisted until action was taken.

Dorina talked about Lisa, the effect this has had on her, the support she still needs, all the time emphasising this story has a good ending, thanks to Lisa's mother.

And what thought can we take from Lisa's story for us in Jersey today? The reason Lisa's story has a happy ending is because of her close relationship with her family, and her mother's faithful love for

her, which was expressed in action. If Lisa had not been so regular in phoning home, her mother would not have realised there was a problem when Lisa was kidnapped, would not have raised the alarm, would not have persisted and persisted in demanding that the police take action. If that had not happened Lisa would still be in Holland.

Are you close enough to people so they will notice if you need help? Are you close enough to people to notice if they need? And if they need help - will you give that help? Are there people in Jersey today who are victims of people trafficking? Do we know what signs to look for?

Rose Helie



Sper Fam football team St Pauls

MISSION AFRICA

A Calling that has taken us by surprise!

READERS have expressed an eagerness to receive more information about Mission Africa, so we have invited its leader, Terry Charlton, to fill us in.

Mission Africa was founded in 2001 after Terry visited a remote part of Uganda. They found people hungry for the Word of God in a way the West has sadly forgotten, and experienced a harvest of souls

on a completely different scale to anything they had ever known before.

Terry, who has been living in Jersey since 2005, immediately felt God calling him to leave his job as a commercial lawyer and make himself available to reach out to remote parts of East Africa, where the big city missions never go. He works very closely with Steven Trint (a Ugandan pastor based in

Kampala) and other African church leaders.

Mission Africa is registered as a charity in both the UK and Jersey. They were the first western evangelists to be allowed in to the huge prison compounds in Rwanda, where they led thousands of genocide detainees to a new life in Christ. They have conducted numerous successful missions in Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania and

Uganda. Thousands have come to faith and experienced physical healings.

Terry regularly takes teams on short term missions. Since God frequently uses these trips to release new callings, you might like to find out more about how you can support this work, or even be involved in itself yourself by contacting him on 486082 or e-mail him at terry.charlton@mission-africa.org



Terry Charlton

Mission Africa continues in 2010

Terry Charlton left the January snow to face the intense heat and humidity in Uganda!

He writes
"Steve greeted me at the airport with the exciting news that his church was ready to embark on a year of evangelism. Many had been fasting for the whole of the previous week. Could some of his people come on the mission to get some training and experience? They could indeed! The result was the biggest team ever: 23 members. Hallelujah!

Mission to Kaiti (in the district of Numutumba) a huge spiritual hunger - many healings!

Having crammed this greatly expanded team - plus equipment - into the back of a hired truck and one spare car, we arrived to an enthusiastic welcome in an open sided grass roofed church. Such was the yearning and hunger for God, and the sense of His presence in the place, that right through the week, from the first evening, people came up to pray the prayer of salvation even before any altar call was made.

Over 700 people gave their lives to Jesus during this first week in that very rural location, including a good number of Muslims. We saw God perform many healings amongst them. Even during one of the first of the morning training sessions, which was attended by over 60 leaders from 17 churches, we saw God heal eleven of those attending in the space of just ten minutes after asking them to pray for each other. These healings included instant restoration of defective hearing and sight. Wow!

Bars closed

Drunkness was a huge problem in this village. One of the 'cottage industries' is the brewing of a strong local liquor called Waragi from sorghum, banana or sugar cane waste. We praise God that two bar owners gave their lives to Jesus, one standing on the platform testifying what she had done and urging her former customers to do the same!

Powers of darkness driven back

As well as being in the grip of drunkenness, the whole place had been very bound up by witchcraft. Many well known people testified about how they had been delivered and set free from demons. On the final Saturday we had the joy of burning witchcraft items that had been surrendered on the stage. There was great rejoicing and much dancing!

Prisons wide open

We went initially to a small remand home where there were just six inmates awaiting trial. Preaching to these barefoot prisoners in the shade of an avocado tree it was a delight to see every single



60 year old Bonefancio, a well known drunk received immediate healing to his eyes that first night, gave his life to the Lord and announced that he would take to court any one who tried to persuade him to drink again!! He was still testifying a week later to the delighted crowd that he had been set free of addiction. People came out of the crowd giving him new clothes and shoes - he came on the stage to dance in these - never ever having had shoes in his whole life. A man utterly transformed by the life and power of Jesus!

one pray the prayer of salvation - plus a wife and child who were visiting that afternoon (a whole family coming to Jesus - hallelujah!)

The next day we travelled to a larger prison. I was just about to preach to the twenty two who were there when a barefooted work party of forty more returned in their yellow uniforms. Of these sixty two, forty eight (including some Muslims) prayed the prayer of salvation, nearly three quarters of the prison population! To God be all the glory!

Door to door harvest - a new ministry found - a new church planted

Just as the disciples in the New Testament went out visiting people in their homes returned with much joy and singing, three people from Steve's church came back two hours later having led no less than twenty people to the Lord. They were mightily encouraged.

One man cycled up to one team member saying 'don't speak to me - I have only three minutes -

please may I pray the prayer of salvation?' Such was the hunger for the Gospel.

Daniel Matove, another member of Steve's church, who had never done any door to door work, and was very fearful about doing so, visited a village over two miles away. He saw two people come to Christ as he did so. Returning to follow these up the next day three more gave their lives to Jesus. The following day he was approached by two teenage girls from that village pleading for him to return. This he did along with the host pastor. They found a group of forty people in a compound and had their own mini-crusade there. All gave their lives to Jesus. Returning there yet again the following day yet another thirty people prayed the prayer of salvation - more than seventy in total. The result is a new evangelistic ministry for Daniel - and a new church will be planted in that village. God is on the move!!

God's protection

Thanks to your prayers the team were kept in very good health. On the last Saturday evening during the showing of the Jesus film, a cobra was



Inspired by all this, folk went out in pairs to visit people in their houses One couple came across a Muslim lady named Zahar (right) who had been housebound and unable to eat or walk properly for eight years. She gave her life to the Lord, and then walked one mile to the meeting to testify on the platform of her healing and her new faith. Praise God!

spotted in the darkness emerging from the crowd and heading straight for the P.A. team. One of them immediately managed to kill it. We were just amazed and praise God that no one was bitten!

Follow up visit - Kikandwa - what a welcome!

Nine of us went on to make a visit the following week to this 90% Muslim township which we visited three years previously. The journey took five hours, much of the last thirty miles being spent travelling at walking pace. Paul, our driver, in the heavily overloaded vehicle, had to negotiate his way around the deep gullies that etch the surface of the road, as a result of the earlier rainy season.

A wonderful welcome awaited us with a group of ladies whooping, dancing and running in delight towards the vehicle to grasp our hands. I wondered to myself afterwards: if this is the sort of welcome we receive on earth what will our welcome in heaven be like?

After refresher training (in which many once again received physical healing), twenty two people went out for door to door evangelism. They returned two hours later with a new spirit of joy. The first couple who returned testified to having led sixteen people to Jesus including six Muslims!

One very moving moment came when a young couple turned up just after breakfast having walked seven miles to the house we were staying in, carrying their baby who had a fever.

Our short visit of just two days was crowned with an impromptu celebration in the host church. Many living nearby were attracted by the sound of the worship. It was an unexpected delight to see over forty people give their lives to Jesus at the end of this. After the battering from Satan that the local church had been going through recently, we are praying that God will continue to move in mighty power once more in this place.

Blessed unity!

Once more, there was an extraordinary sense of love and unity in the team, which was frequently commented on. It greatly impacted both the host pastors and all who had contact with us. The unity was such that they could not believe that we weren't all from one church. We praise God for this, and thank you so much for your prayers, which helped to make this happen.

Visit to David Sseruwagi's orphanage and school

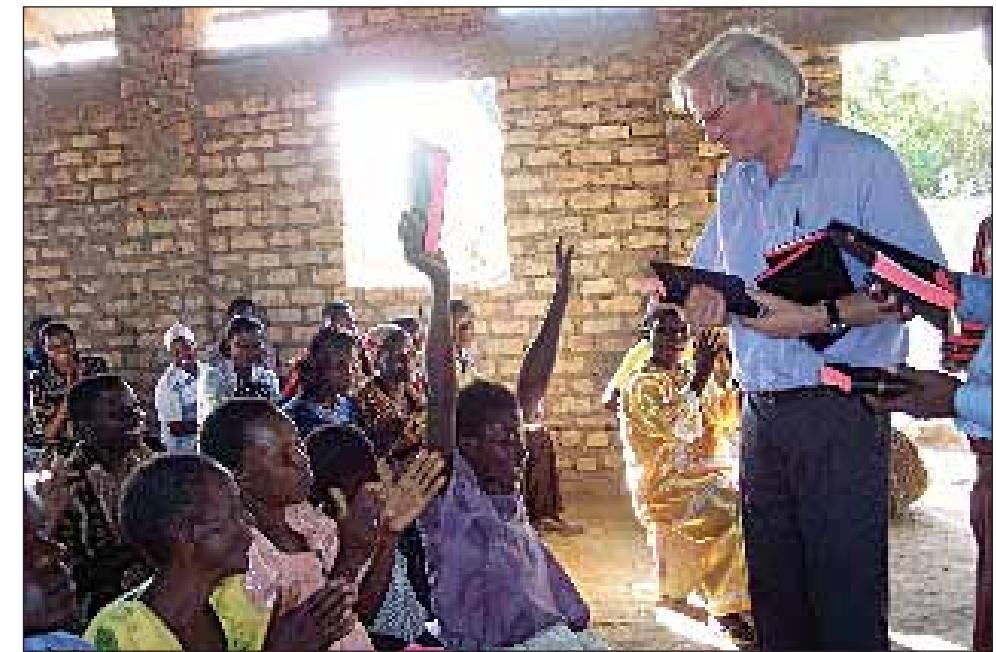
It was also a delight to visit David's place once more. This was where I was so mightily impacted on my first visit exactly ten years previously. We also discovered

that, with help from a number of people including Mission Africa, the financial position of both the orphanage and the schools is beginning to improve. Positive steps are being taken to get the ministry back on to a much sounder financial footing. As the greatest bonus possible, over forty children gave their lives to the Lord when I spoke to a group of them. Hallelujah!

Thank you so very, very much for all your prayers, support and encouragement. As you will realise from the above report God has done exceeding more than we could have thought or hoped as a result of them!

Yours in His harvest field,

Terry Charlton,
Steve Trint
and the Mission Africa team



Lady falling to her knees on receiving a Bible



Some ladies very happy with their new bibles

KENYAN CHILDREN'S PROJECT

A group from St Matthew's Church, Millbrook returned in March from Kakamega in Western Kenya where they visited a heart warming outreach to abandoned, orphaned and deprived children, some of whom had been 'Street children or Chokora' or scavengers. These street children were sometimes sent out by their impoverished parent to work or beg. Some have been abandoned and others had lost parents due to political unrest or illness. They are sometimes taken in by extended family members but poverty makes it difficult to cope and children find themselves on the streets with its culture of violence, exploitation, drugs, hunger and disease.

An estimated 21% of the population in Kenya is HIV positive and life expectancy is 54 for a man and 57 for a woman. Over a million children have lost one or both parents.

Rev Phil Warren and his wife Heather led the group from Jersey. Accompanying them were their daughters Sanna aged 15 and Emily 12, Amanda Jury, Becky Harrison and Nigel Porter. The plight of the street children was a shocking revelation. In stark contrast was the loving family atmosphere at 'Koinonia' where 21 boys, some as young as 5 years are brought up and taught. Sanna and Emily, Phil's daughters were impressed by the boys' desire for schooling, the pride in their simple school uniforms and the pleasure at receiving the gifts of balloons, socks and other small items that the team had brought with them. They had never had presents before joining 'Koinonia'.

As well as spending time with the children in the residence compound with its schoolrooms, the group went out to see some of the street children who live in appalling conditions. They visited feeding and medical programmes and were invited into the homes of local people. They witnessed the treatment of Jiggers, insects which invade children's feet and cause swollen and encrusted sores on the bare feet of youngsters. The cure is simple, if you can afford the few pence needed for an organo phosphate insecticidal water dip. The children's feet are immersed in the liquid which is extremely painful to bear. A lot of praying went on as the group watched the pain these youngsters went through, particularly as Kenyan children are brought up not to show pain, but with the open wounds caused by Jigger this was almost impossible. In past trips children have been known to pass out with the pain of having their feet treated.

"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these".

A wonderful answer to prayer came one day when the group from Jersey went to help at a mid week feeding programme organised by the local Mother's Union in a rural location. Each week around 300 children are given their only hot meal of the week. This consists of cabbage and a glutinous maize dish ugali. On this occasion as it was mid week and not an official pro-

gramme, only about 30 or 40 children were expected but 150 turned up! The 'Mama' in charge declared that they would have to be sent away but backed by prayer, the distribution went ahead. As they stirred and served the food Sanna and her mother Heather could see that it wasn't going to go round but as they prayed and dished up they found that the food lasted until every child had been fed. This was a timely reminder of the 'Feeding of the 5000' and the way in which the Lord is blessing this Christian Charity.

It was Stu and Chloe Glassborow who after witnessing the fate of street children in Kenya came back to their church and began raising funds to build a retreat for

children in such circumstances. A charity was formed, funds were raised and 'Koinonia', the boys' home, was built. The building of 'Deborah House', a home for girls, is almost completed. Funds are now being raised to purchase a bus to take the girls to the boys' compound for schooling. St Matthew's church is committed to helping to raise these funds and a collection was taken at New Wine Channel Islands Conference in May. Stu and Chloe Glassborow are regular Speakers at New Wine conferences and elsewhere.

Marian Pitt

Funds sufficient for the bus have now been raised.



Nigel, Dan Davison, Becky, Stu, Chloe, Heather, Sanna, Phil, Sarah Strong, Emily, Amanda. (Dan and Sarah are from the mainland)