

Mission Support Group

At St Paul's we continue to support many wonderful projects and people committed to bringing Christ's love and hope to the world, whether here in Cambridge or farther afield.

Divine Hope is run by Fred Bhosa in Uganda, and continues to grow in its provision of health care and secondary education for children. Monthly clinics are held in different districts with 200 people being treated each time by a team of medics. Fred has also enrolled 28 children for secondary school in 2018. He identifies children and young people who are unable to afford education, and then makes arrangements with their guardians and headteachers for them to attend. One of these is Agnes Nankusu, the girl in the pink dress. She is 14 years old, and has recently lost both parents.



Chem-U is also run in Uganda by a former member of St Paul's, Dorothy. This organisation, caring for Aids orphans and other vulnerable children by providing education and family



support, has grown to 48, with 36 in primary education and 12 now in secondary. All the children receive school fees, meals, bags and scholastic materials. One of the children, John Terry, broke his arm while playing at school and after two unsuccessful operations in the local hospital, was brought to a better hospital in Kampala where the third operation was successful.

The picture shows the children happily receiving second hand clothes after their Christmas dinner. Dorothy writes *'We have come to the end of another exciting year, our children have had a truly wonderful learning experience. We would like to thank you all, our sponsors, for the love and support that you give our children, your continuous support has made this year a great success.'*



Bronwen Moore continues her inspiring work with Catholic Relief Services, with a change in location: *'Since January this year I've been working on a project targeting 7000 small scale cocoa farmers in rural Haiti, the poorest country in the western hemisphere. The majority of these farmers, each cultivating under a hectare of land, were severely affected by Hurricane Matthew. Cocoa is one of the nation's main exports. At Catholic Relief Services, we build the capacity of local cooperatives to restore affected land, replant, graft elite strains, increase productivity and add value to harvests through improved fermentation and drying techniques. (4000 farmers have participated in training this week.) We support local cooperatives' governance structures, increasing female participation and enabling farmers to collectively reach national exporters.'* This picture shows Bronwen with a group of farmers participating in training (right).





MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) is another amazing organisation we support, with its mission to use light aircraft to transform the lives of the world's most isolated people in need. It is wonderful to see that Bronwen was able to access rural places with their help - this is the 8 seater flight she took.

Nearer to home is **Romsey Mill**, an organisation working with young people and families across Cambridge in a variety of different ways. Some of the young people struggle with school and life, and it is wonderful to have Richard Beckett there, supporting them in a positive and inspirational way.

'We have just started a social enterprise community café at Romsey Mill every Friday afternoon, where we bake cakes to sell and serve to whoever comes in from the local community. Any money that is made is used to buy resources, ingredients and equipment needed for the café. Since starting the café, the young people's confidence and barista skills have increased massively! Through some of our work, we want to introduce young people to Jesus and faith. Just before Christmas we took a group of young people to a carol service and then came back to Romsey Mill for a Christmas meal. A lot of our young people are from very tough family backgrounds and we want them to know that they are loved and appreciated. So, through all of our work we try to create a sense of family and togetherness and places where they can talk to us, ask questions, get help, seek advice and support and have fun. We are not all the way there yet but we will carry on the journey together.'



One of the national initiatives we support is the work of Andrew Hawkins at the Philo Trust, whose vision is to proclaim Jesus Christ afresh across the UK through stadium events. The first of these was at the Emirates Arsenal Stadium in July attended by over 20,000 people and further events are planned in 2018. Other local organisations are the Cambridge Street Pastors who are trained volunteers present in the city on Friday and Saturday nights to support any in difficulty, and the Money Advice Centre which seeks to help people in debt. More details of these and all our organisations can be found on the church website.

Thanks to the wonderful members of the group - Ruth Hatch, Diana Hawkins, Angela McLellan, Pat Rigby and Michael Bloy, and to the church for its fantastic support of mission related things. Please do get in touch if you have a particular interest, we would love to hear from you!

Mandy Farrer