

June & July 2010 at HAPO Tabora, Tanzania.

The Meals Programme feeds a group of vulnerable and orphaned children in Tabora, Tanzania who attend an outreach centre for street children called HAPO. Each day the children are provided with a hot meal, often the only meal they will get that day. This provides much needed nourishment and strength to help the children attend school and hopefully give them a brighter future, away from life begging on the streets. The food is bought and cooked every day by Adela and Deus, two Tabora residents. The programme is reliant on kind donations. Therefore, if you would like to help please make a donation to "Tabora Meals for Children Trust" Barclays Bank, UK, Sort code: 209748 A/C No. 03224031 and contact Siwan, Margaret, or Sophie (siwan.g@hotmail.co.uk)



At the beginning of June, 11 children returned from boarding school in Kahama for their mid year vacation, 7 children who are in their final year of primary school had to stay behind in Kahama as their national exams are imminent and they will have their holiday after the exams. The local school children also broke up for their holidays excepting those in Standard Four who had to continue attending school also in preparation for national exams. Ex volunteers Karly and Margaret arrived back in Tabora along with Emily who had worked in Tabora in

2008. Ex volunteer Daniel from Canada arrived in early July. Emily brought footballs and toys and the kids settled in to enjoying the holiday. Sweet potatoes were in season and cheap so the Meals Programme provided them for the children's breakfasts. Daily hot lunches (with fruit twice a week) are enjoyed by all thanks to your donations. The girls, seen on the right, help Adela to dish out the lunches. Before lunch the older children had been helping each other and the younger ones by cutting their hair. All need short hair for the return to school.



On June 19th the Guardians of the children came to HAPO and a feast was prepared by Bernadette and some of the Mums, Aunts and staff. Adela was on leave and Bernadette, seen far left, stood in for her sister as cook for a month. The lunch was cooked in the usual way in three pots on three separate charcoal fires but it was extra special and all the guests enjoyed it. A donation was given to cover the extra cost involved. The childrens academic results were reported and the children entertained all with singing and dancing.



There was an opportunity for the families to discuss any problems and to share information. Dr Kauzeni, HAPO's Programme manager said that all should now have received water filtration buckets. If any had problems with their

buckets they should bring them in for repair or exchange. Drinks at home will now be clean water.

At the end of June Emma returned to Scotland for two months leave and is seen here giving her last lesson with Deus helping her. She is due back at the end of August. Mama Sekasua continues to teach the children and HAPO has been helped by Maryl, a new volunteer from the USA. The children enjoy the extra tuition they get at HAPO.



Some donors to the Meals Programme have said that their money could be used at our discretion for anything needed by the children. The 13 children attending local school needed new school uniforms and bags and books. Siobhan has worked hard to use the money wisely and kit out all the kids ready for their return to school in July. They were very happy to be looking smart, see left. Here in Tanzania, though primary education is free, the children are required to be dressed in uniforms and to provide their own books.

In the past HAPO has provided uniforms and school necessities for 40 orphans and vulnerable children living in rural villages 10 miles from Tabora. Siobhan has embarked on this task, driving hard bargains with the sellers of school bags and books, which she distributed this week as she went with Dr Kauzeni out to the villages to measure the children up for their uniforms. If you want to help with these children from Bukumbi and Shitage please send your donation to the Meals Programme fund marked, "for school uniforms" and enable these rural children to attend school.

One of our young friends, still too young to be a HAPO kid, but much loved and frequently visited by staff and children, recovered from kwashiorkor, then after 6 months treatment for TB was declared well. That week he fell and broke his arm in the school playground. His grannies brought him to HAPO and he went off to hospital on the shoulders of Dr Dave who is currently on loan to Tabora from the British NHS. (Dave plays football with the HAPO lads each week.) Two days later he and his grannies were back again at HAPO as his fingers were swollen and this stoical lad had been crying. His problems were rapidly sorted out by Dr Dave, hospital staff and HAPO.



Work has been progressing on the Machine Knitting project and one machine is now in place and producing garments for sale. The children worked with staff to prepare the rooms for the Knitting Project see left.

We have a new website and welcome your views and suggestions. <http://www.hapotabora.net>

If you would like to come and visit or volunteer for a while, or sponsor a child, or help other aspects of HAPO, please email hapo_tabora@yahoo.com. If you would like to help finance the children's Meals Programme please make a donation to "Tabora Meals for Children Trust" Barclays Bank, UK, Sort code: 209748 A/C No. 03224031.