



Christian Brothers
East Africa District

East Africa District Newsletter

DRAWN BY MYSTERY, DESTINED FOR LIFE.

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REFLECTION



Just wait a while, turn your back and
remember what you have forgotten.
Try to find if you've lost,
apologize if you've hurt,
forgive if you have been hurt.
Because life is too short.

~ Shams Tabrizi

PRAYERS REQUESTED

For the repose of the soul of Br Albert's (WAD) mother, and for the repose of the soul of my (George Massay) uncle Calist Mayomba. May they rest in peace.



Chapter 2014

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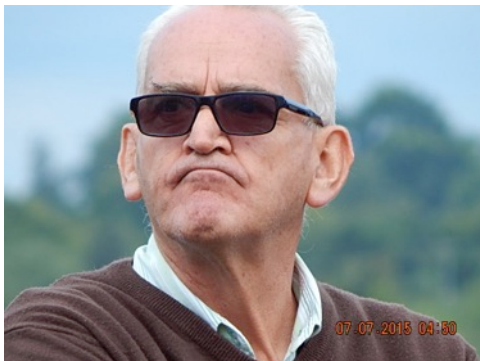
2015 ZIMELE EXCHANGE



Kenya Buffaloes (BBCEC) and Tanzanian Simbas (ERSSS)

The second Zimele Foundation sponsored exchange was hosted last week by Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School who welcomed a group of seventy students and staff from Brother Beausang who made the trip to Arusha on Sunday July 5.

After a long wait at Namanga to finalize travel and health regulations, the excitement went up a notch as the reality of being in Tanzania hit home. This excitement became even more intense when the buses reached the outskirts of Arusha and even another delay (as the bus crew decided to off load some additional goods and a few 'dodgy' - Australian expression for suspicious looking - passengers that somehow found their way on board) could not dampen the enthusiasm and soon we were heading down through Unga Limited to ERSSS.



Br Clem - Why does he not look pleased?

After a warm welcome from Br. Clem and an enjoyable supper and soda the BBCEC group headed for their accommodation in the dormitories – a new experience for most being lifelong day students. The Zimele group led by Tom Purcell had also arrived so it was also good to see some familiar faces.

Although tired many of the students woke up early to make sure they did not miss out on any action including early morning basketball and discussions! Breakfast was most welcome and then Br. Clem gave the group a short introduction





about the school followed by a tour. The garden and library areas were particularly impressive. After this we made the short walk to FoodWaterShelter (FWS), (Kesho Leo) before returning to Sinon for lunch.

The afternoon saw the formal program of competition begin with the girls volleyball having the honour of getting things underway. Beausang drew first blood with a hard fought victory but Sinon were also soon celebrating as their boys volleyball had a convincing win over the Beausang team. Both matches served only to whet the appetite for further contests and after supper no one was disappointed by a very fierce debate that saw national pride for both sets of students put to the test but in the end the team from Embulbul emerged the winner. The pulse rates were now high but a good sleep (and another early morning wake up by some students) meant all were ready for day two action.



Inspired by the debate, the basketballers gave everything and in a physical content the BBCEC Rockets edged out the host team. Next on the court were the netball girls and the Beausang Diamonds, the 2014 - 2015 Kajiado Champions showed their class with a clear win in spite of not being familiar with some of the rule interpretations operating in Tanzania.

Lunch provided a welcome break before all made the twenty five minute bus trip to the field near Arusha airport for the Australian Rules match between the Kenyan Buffaloes and Tanzanian Simbas. With the home crowd support boosted by Christian Brother postulants from nearby Shams led by Br. Gerard Ellul , all was set for another epic battle similar to 2014. Hamish from the Zimele group was interim coach of the Buffaloes in the absence of the Principal who was left in Embulbul on other duties! Br. Clem was the man with the clipboard for the Simbas.

The match did not fail to live up to expectations and in a low scoring and bruising encounter played in rain, wind and sunshine, the Buffaloes were able to keep narrowly in front for most of the match until the Simbas looked to take a leaf out of the 2014 Buffalo match plan and come from behind at the end to snatch victory with a goal late in the final quarter that put them in front.





To prove that history does repeat, Emmanuel Mutisya who kicked the game winning point on the bell in 2014 did it again, kicking the decisive goal with a few minutes to play allowing BBCEC to sneak a 4 point win. Tom Purcell who also umpired the game made the following comments:



Crowd at the match

“The football match was just incredible. The standard of play was fantastic and the skill development in the skills also incredible. It was tough and close all day...played in great spirit.”

Following presentations at the field and formal concluding words and then supper back at the school, all the students enjoyed an entertaining post competition social

evening that saw the dancing styles of the Tanzanian and Kenyan students do their countries proud!

On Wednesday morning the journey back home began with parting words from Br. Clem but once we reached Arusha town the bus people decided to change the arrangements made when the booking was finalized, thus delaying the trip for a few hours which allowed the students the opportunity to compare Nakumatt Arusha to Nakumatt Karen or in most cases with Sweet World Supermarket Embulbul and to debate the differences between a matatu and a daladala.

Once underway the trip was reasonably straight forward although the Journalism Club Captain travelled in pain having sustained a hairline fracture of the wrist playing basketball in the dark at 5.30 a.m. that morning! The tired but happy party arrived back at school shortly after 6 p.m. No surprises then that not all made it to school on Thursday and those that did soon succumbed to exhaustion and were given leave to head home by the ever caring Principal.

Our thanks must go to Tom Purcell and Zimele for their sponsorship and to Br. Clem, the students and staff of Edmund Rice Sinon who made this such a memorable experience for all involved. Asante Sana! This was a special opportunity and we are very fortunate to have such generous supporters such as Tom and Zimele.





Therefore to conclude, it is fitting that the final words will be from Tom Purcell

“The exchange was a great success. The energy, spirit and friendships developed were just great...there was such an outstanding spirit between the two nations and a great unity of the Edmund Rice charism.”

(Contributors: Hezron Chege; Daisy Dolphine; Brian Nzuki; Christelle In- Hyang; Mercilinus Osiemo; Brian Nzuki; Tom Purcell; Emmanuel Moki)

Peter Shanahan

———— **COME AND SEE** ————

Otiende community is graciously hosting another come and see programme. We await their arrival. As usual, I've had the ups and downs as we communicate. In the meantime I am searching for two come and sees in August. I hope to extricate some of those from P1 second year or from a few who are teaching qualified P1's. It seems simple but somehow consumes so much time. We will have good fun in the meantime!!

PETER COLE

———— **EDMUND RICE CAMPS FOR KIBERA KIDS
TRAINING DAY, JULY 11, 2015 AT REGINA PACIS GROUND** ————



Once again, permission was withdrawn at the last minute by the managing foreman. We were forced to squeeze out a 'donation'. It was a





training-in-skills day for as many leaders as possible. Thirty fronted. John Muisyo led 29 new games in methodical fashion, great systematic organization. At the end, leaders were placed in small groups to lead one or more games among their peers as revision. The afternoon saw us prepare for a kids' camp in two weeks time plus coming to terms with unfinished business – like the Strategic Planning document, the Constitution, the big project. The leadership seems more than ready not to flinch and carry all through. We had to postpone our Community Outreach to Kibera schools due the coming Saturday due to the imminent public holiday.

PETER COLE

———— **MY EXPERIENCE IN YAMBIO** ————

My research work experience of the past 6 weeks in Yambio (South Sudan) has been overwhelmingly positive. Working in the community has provided me with a unique opportunity to witness with my own two eyes rather than just be told about the problem.

I would like to extend my special thanks to Fred for the important work he is doing with the Star Support Group for People Living With HIV and AIDS (PLWHA) and also my gratitude to the Christian Brothers and other benefactors for their effort and support to this project that serves the poor. Many of these people are the most affected in our society, having been abandoned, isolated and discriminated by others.



Martin with children at Star Support Project

It is my firm belief that the Star Support Group project is the proper way forward. Sharing and working with PLWHA has given me a broader understanding of the challenges they encounter as a result of the virus, and how the Star Support Project is the source of encouragement and hope for them.

It provides a framework for social transformation and empowerment of communities, not just at the local level but around the whole nation of South Sudan.





I look forward to completing my research work with the generous support that I continue to receive from Yambio community. Attached is a photograph of some of the children who are infected by the virus.

Martin Khaemba

BIRTHDAYS IN JULY

JULY 16	FRANCIS NKWABI
JULY 26	GERALD MGALULA

CALENDAR

July 5-20	PLT visitation of the District
July 16-17	DLT Review Days
August 9-14	AP Brothers workshop with Br. John Casey (CLT)
August 10-14	PLT meeting
September 4-6	Child Protection Workshop
September 12	Nairobi Cluster meeting
September 19	Arusha Cluster meeting

Many Blessings,

George Massay

