



BUILDING HOPE THROUGH EDUCATION

NEWSLETTER

Zambia's Child
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The Blessings of Working in Partnership

www.zambiaschild.ngo

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It is nearly 20 years since Blessed to Bless was born. Based on the belief that we are called to bless others out of the blessings we have received, this core value continues to inform all aspects of the organisation we now know as Zambia's Child. And in July this year, 35 people from Australia and the UK put this value into action, travelling to Ipalo Christian School to serve the community there. Aged from 10 to 80 years of age, each person came with their own strengths, gifts and expectations, ready to be involved, get to know the students and support the staff.



In my time with our team, it was clear that every one of them was there for a purpose, bringing their own unique contribution. Some were experienced in the classroom, others had skills in accounting, theology, water engineering, maintenance, electrical, carpentry and building work, administration, IT, media, health, nursing, sewing and horticulture. All came ready to serve in whatever way would bless the school.

For many the highlight of their time in Zambia was the relationships that were formed and moments of connection across cultures. With such a welcoming and curious school community, team members would often stop to chat with students only to find themselves in an informal Bemba lesson. Our youngest team member, 10-year-old Daniel must be fluent by now, given the number of times his blond head was spotted in the middle of an animated group of Ipalo students.

In this newsletter we'll attempt to convey what the experience was like, inspire you to share the story with your church, school, family or community and hopefully encourage you to be part of our next Mission Trip.

While the world around us says that the best way to use our energy is in meeting our own needs, creating a safe and comfortable life, and storing up riches for our future, it seems that God has another and better way in mind.

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. – Luke 12:32-34

For all of us, whether from Australia, the UK or Zambia, it is as we live out the values of God's kingdom that we too will know His peace and blessing.

Edwina Baily **President Zambia's Child**



Top Left: Amelia from regional NSW at ICS

Above: Daniel with students at ICS

Blessed to Bless

Our Mission Team 2026 landed at Ipalo Christian School in July, ready to listen, learn and serve.

Travelling from around Australia and the UK, this diverse team of people of all ages, brought their skills and gifts to bless the staff and students and Ipalo Christian School over three weeks. In small teams and one on one, they worked with students in the classroom, staff in the office and out in the field, experiencing the life of the school community for themselves.



Above: Members of the Zambia Board of Blessed to Bless with members of the Australian Committee

It was a privilege for our Australian Committee members to meet with the Zambia Board at the school. They celebrated the impact of ICS in the lives of students and their families and committed to work together to see the school strengthen and grow into the future.

From the Mission Team

We asked four members of our Mission Team to share something of their experience.

FROM CHARLIE The final Team members to arrive at ICS came from our major corporate sponsor, Lead Forensics in the UK.



Above: Lead Forensics Team on their way home to the UK

"Going to Zambia was something I had been hoping to do since joining Lead Forensics. The week was jam packed, but I wouldn't have it any other way. We helped on the agriculture plot, participated in lessons with the Grade 2 children, helped Loveness with admin, visited the Chimfunshi Sanctuary, joined the Day of the African Child celebrations, visited our sponsored children, and most importantly, we saw how happy the kids were at the school.

Since returning home, my perspective on life has changed massively; coming from what I would now call a privileged background, I have realised how lucky I am just to be born where I was, the opportunities that are at my fingertips, the infrastructure around me, and how easy it is to call in sick and know I'll still be paid. Life in

Below: Gerringong Team plus Cathy from Sydney



Zambia is nothing like that, everyone is motivated, happy, hardworking, and just the nicest people you will come across.

Zambia wasn't short of life changing, and I'd choose to go back in a heartbeat."

FROM LORNA Travelling from Gerringong in NSW with 8 others from her church, this was Lorna's third visit to ICS.

"I was amazed at how the school has developed since I was last there in 2019; with more than double the classrooms, grass(!), boarding houses and so much more. [Cont. on next page]



[FROM LORNA CONT.] The essential things have remained the same: many staff members, the beautiful, smiling children, the focus on Jesus, and the huge impact on the local community.

Having been before, I knew to expect the unexpected, but I was still surprised at the variety of things I did in just two weeks, including: Kids' Fun Days, working with the school nurse, driving the team bus, decorating the school for the Day of the African Child, giving talks on the importance of clean drinking water, visiting sponsor children, and going to a local church.

The experience has reminded me of how faithful God is, and how much He answers prayer. The vibrant faith of the Zambian people is very infectious. I would love to go back again.

FROM CATHY From the Northern Beaches in Sydney, Cathy was keen to meet the students she sponsors, to see ICS in action, and to provide practical support to the school's students and the Zambian community.

"The most moving experience was going to the students' homes, meeting their families and seeing their daily lives. I was inspired by the way these children come to school every morning in their neat clean uniforms and sit reading silently in their classrooms at 7:20am. They were enthusiastic, well mannered, and thankful for the opportunity to learn. Many aspire to be doctors, lawyers, engineers and active contributors to society in Zambia.



I enjoyed participating in the classrooms, teaching songs and games, picking vegetables and building compost heaps, and introducing reading assessment materials to support learning. I loved spending time with the boarders, sharing crochet skills and materials with parents and senior students.

The trip has made me more appreciative for what I have been given in life and grown a desire to continue helping others in meaningful ways. I can't wait to return to Zambia, particularly to encourage the students and staff at the school.

FROM ABEL Having grown up in Zambia, Abel now lives in Australia where he is a Water Systems Engineer and conservationist.

"My brother was encouraging me to get involved in mission when the trip to ICS was being planned. I hoped to contribute to water security and build local capacity to build, operate and maintain their water infrastructure."

Over the two weeks that Abel was at ICS, he and others worked with Daniel and the Agriculture Team to: install a pilot HydroRock project providing water directly to the plant rootzone; extend and improve the irrigation system; relocate and install a water tank and stand; decommission a bore; install solar panels for the water pumps; and clean and improve the flow of water from the bore.

"I feel I'm coming full circle in my lifecycle, and can begin to understand why I spent my childhood and youth in Zambia. I now need to ponder and pray about what I do with who I am and how I can be obedient to God."



Image Top Left: Lorna and students; Top Right: Cathy with students; Left: Abel on his way to Zambia

Mission Team in Action



Sponsorship in Action

Following the Mission Trip, our team set the bold target of achieving 100% sponsorship of Ipalo students by September. Already we're well on our way to meeting the goal, with new sponsorships taken out in the last month. You can change the life of a student and their family by committing to sponsor with Zambia's Child. As a sponsor, you will undergird the costs of a student's uniforms, schoolbooks and a nutritious daily meal, while helping them achieve their goals through education.

Find out how you can sponsor a current student by emailing enquiries@zambiaschild.ngo. We have students from Grade 1 through to Grade 12 who are ready to thrive with your support. Sponsor today and help build hope through education for tomorrow.

Right: Charlie at ICS



News from Manuel Community School

It's encouraging to witness the commitment of staff and students at Manuel Community School, (MCS) where a little resource has a mighty impact.

What a blessing it was for members of our Australian Committee and others from regional NSW to visit MCS.



After the students honoured the visitors by singing and dancing, the group toured the nearly completed new building that will house the staff room and new early learning class, and met the committed teachers.

Thanks to Lead Forensics in the UK, a supply of school uniforms was delivered in the following week; a valuable resource for students and their families.

Above: MCS Choir and new building; Left: New Uniforms



Message for our Donors

If you make a donation through the Blessed to Bless Inc.

account with Westpac bank, please ensure that your NAME is included in the note for the transaction. A tax deductible receipt is sent to each donor every quarter, but there are regularly donations we can't match with a donor!

If you are waiting for your receipt, please contact the office for help.

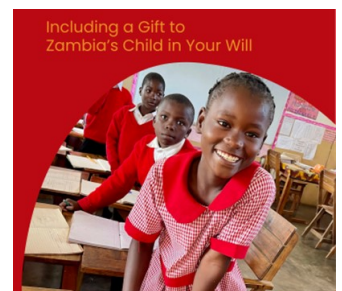
enquiries@zambiaschild.ngo



Fundraise With Us

Do you want to support Zambia's Child and have a great fundraising idea? Whether a dinner, a fun run, a fitness challenge or another creative initiative, get in touch to discuss your idea and we can set up your fundraising page and get you started.

Thanks to Dylan and Edwina who ran in the City to Surf Fun Run, and raised much needed funds!



Leave a Gift In Your Will

Include a gift to Zambia's Child in your will and leave a legacy of hope through education.

Leaving a gift to Zambia's Child in your will is one of the greatest commitments that our supporters can ever make.

Download our booklet at

<https://zambiaschild.ngo>

To find out more email the office at enquiries@zambiaschild.ngo