

T.Z.A.B.A.



Medical/Orphan Project
www.tzaba.org
U.K. Charity No. 238146

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From: Jo Barton – about the Medical/Orphan Project (MOP)

Hello, everyone – and here we are at the end of another year of uncertainty about the pandemic, the world climate, the difficulties of day-to-day living (now noticeable even in this normally comfortable and prosperous country)... I do hope that you have come through all this with your health intact and your spirit undimmed.

The TZABA Committee has continued its work with meetings on Zoom, our new Secretary and Treasurer getting to grips with the complications of their roles with admirable efficiency. As for MOP, it has been almost impossible to do any fund-raising, but I hope to sell at least some of my re-made Christmas cards in the run-up to the festive season.

As always, news from Zimbabwe has been scarce – it is fascinating how seldom our major newspapers focus on the African continent, with perhaps one tiny paragraph a day about just one of the many countries there. Life remains very difficult, however, and certainly not eased with the impact of the virus. It was good to learn recently that most of the families supported by the Avondale centre in Mabvuku have been vaccinated – many of them twice – but there have of course been a number of deaths from the virus too. Having reported last year that no news had been received for months, it turns out that we had dropped off their regular circulation list, and their work had continued, although of course restricted by the Covid limitations, without any need for closure – which is wonderful.

Because the schools were all closed during the worst of the pandemic, the children at Bonda were unable to continue their usual education. However, the funds we supplied for the first term's fees were wisely used to buy cell phones so that they could keep up with whatever was being provided by their school teachers – a great example of 'making the best of things', I'm sure you will agree. We also sent funds to support the Home through the Covid crisis, and it appears that at least some of this money has been used to construct a little 3-cubicle toilet near the main building – see photos below.

Dumisani is busy running an agricultural project set up by the head of Tariro House in Harare, where he has been living for the past several years. His latest texts report that he has planted 15,000 cabbages, which will go to local shops and boarding schools, and has had a success with sugar beans, too. He now would like to buy some land to farm on his own account – we shall await news of this with interest!

Despite the difficulties of the virus regulations, St James's Church Islington continues to be hugely supportive with donations from their Lenten Appeal and Harvest collections, which is much appreciated.

We remain enormously grateful for your continuing interest in, and support of, MOP and its work, and hope that this reminder may prompt you to either send a **cheque** (made payable to 'TZABA (MOP)') to Mr A Elsworth, 10 Lurkins Rise, Goudhurst, Kent TN17 1ED, or (if you bank **electronically**) send direct to TZABA's account at **40-52-40, a/c 00003254**, using your name and 'MOP' as the identifier. You can, of course, also donate via the **JustGiving** button on the TZABA website.

I still have supplies of the postcard designed by the Bonda student (£1 for 4 cards), and would be happy to send these to any interested person on receipt of an e-mail or telephone request (see below).

And finally – if you have acquired (or changed) an e-mail address, please advise me so I can send this electronically in future! Indeed, any alteration of address or phone number would also be appreciated.

God bless you all. We must all pray for a happier year in 2022.

Jo Barton (UK Fundraiser)

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Bonda Home Toilet Block



DUMISANI'S CABBAGES

