



**The
Falconer
Trust**

Supporting the Falconer Children's Home and Orphanage, Kabulamema, Zambia

Newsletter Christmas 2023



A Happy Visit!

*“Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”
(Luke 2:14)*



The following article was written following a visit to the Falconer Home by supporters Gordon and Barbara Billage in July.

In July 2023, together with my husband Gordon and son Mark we set off for Zambia planning to visit the various projects that we support through our Charity (FG Charitable Trust) and see at first hand how those on the front line work tirelessly for the Lord to spread the gospel and bring help to those in need. Among the projects visited was The Falconer Orphanage at Kabulamema, which we have supported through our Charity since 2010 although Gordon and I have been aware of it since we were children in Sunday School, and through visits from Henry Webb to our Children's Meetings we knew of the children at the Home.



Barbara, Miriam, Simon, Mark, and Gordon

This was our first visit to the Home which we were able to accomplish through the kind help of the missionaries at Chitokoloki Mission Hospital that we were also visiting, and they kindly provided a driver who took us by car to Kabulamema – a very bumpy ride indeed, especially when you are 84 years old!

Simon was very happy to see us and quickly organised the children to give us a wonderful welcome and make us feel at home with a lovely singing presentation by the children of choruses that we had sung as children 75 years or so before. We have seen videos previously of the children singing, but there is nothing like being present and to see their happy faces.

Afterwards we went outside to play with the children as we had brought some toys and equipment with us for them – a parachute game, footballs, balloons, and tennis balls.



Whilst the children had their lunch we were shown round the grounds and saw the various 'work-in-progress' projects that were under way. There were three young men who had been through the orphanage themselves who are now helping Simon with these ongoing projects and hopefully these young men will develop into skilled people able to bring these projects to completion. We hope to be able to provide continued support as and when required.

Before we left, we went in for a coffee, and Miriam came to join us from the medical centre, where she works. We had met Miriam previously in England when she came to visit us at our home with Ken and Pat, whom we have known for many years.

Simon has a great love for the children and needs our prayers as he approaches retirement age and, who knows, maybe one of the young men could become his successor, just as Simon succeeded Miss Falconer! The buildings need a lot of maintenance and refurbishment, and we will do our best to encourage and enable as the Lord leads. The



The toilet and shower area of the girls' dormitory is taking shape

54 children were all very happy and well looked after – well fed, clothed and educated as well as learning to love and follow the Lord. Please pray that as each one of them grows and matures that they will each come to know and trust the Lord Jesus as their Saviour. Remember Simon, Miriam, and the staff also as they continue to work tirelessly for the Lord.

Barbara Billage

The New Vehicle

We are so grateful to all our supporters who have donated specifically for the purchase of a new vehicle for the Home. We are delighted to say that we have received enough funds for Simon to be able to start in earnest his search for a suitable vehicle.

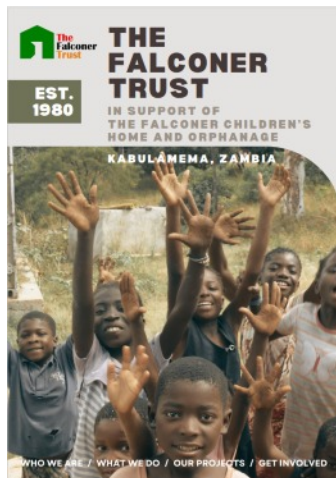


Booklet

A new 16-page booklet about the Falconer Home and the work of the Falconer Trust is now available. It is particularly aimed at older teens and young adults. If you would like some copies to give to the younger people in your church please get in touch.

New DVD

A 30-minute DVD, entitled 'Overflowing With Hope' is now available, based on the trip to the Falconer Home in June 2023. Please get in touch to request a copy. It can also be viewed on Youtube, by following this link: <https://youtu.be/Okn1hCZQEHo>



Progress on Building Work



Simon and his team continue to make steady progress on the various building projects at the Home. The girls' dormitory, which is based around the old derelict church, has now reached roof height, with additions at either end for showers, toilets and a kitchen area. A ring beam will be fitted around the tops of the walls ready for the roof to be constructed. Once the roof is on, all the interior work can begin.

The toilet and shower block near the boys' dormitory and the new kitchen building are also progressing well. There is, however, still a great deal of work to be done, and with the

onset of the rainy season, work inevitably becomes much more challenging.

Meanwhile, at the farm, planting for the coming year's crops is taking place. Again, the timing of this is critical due to the arrival of the rainy season.

You can make a donation using your phone or tablet by scanning this QR code:





Please Pray...



- ... Thank God for the provision of funds to purchase a replacement vehicle for the Home. Pray that a suitable vehicle can be found quickly.
- ... for the planting of crops at the farm, and for a good yield in the coming year.
- ... for good progress on all the building projects currently being undertaken
- ... for all the children and staff at the Home, that they have a happy and healthy Christmas

Thank You

A very big thank you to all who have supported the work throughout the year in some way, whether through prayer, finance, donation of goods or any other way. May God bless you richly for your efforts on behalf of the children. May you have a happy, blessed and peaceful Christmas!



Knitted garments and blankets from Theydon Bois Baptist Church Women Together group

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