



Rufiji Leprosy Trust Newsletter

April 2018

Issue 110

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the 110th edition of the Rufiji Leprosy Trust's Newsletter. Our aim is to share the latest news from Kindwitwi and show you how your funds are being spent.

News from Kindwitwi written by our specialist shoemaker Salum Kipoloya.

Leprosy news

Village visits

I travelled from Kindwitwi to Mloka to make and distribute protective footwear to the people affected by leprosy. During my visit, 12 people have been seen at different villages. Among them was Issa who lives at Ngorongo village.



Mr. Issa with his new shoes made by Salum.

News from the village

The Anglican Church people from Kongowe - Dar es Salaam came at Kindwitwi to visit Kindwitwi people. They brought some gifts like maize flour 50kgs, pigeon-peas 20kg, clothes and 5l of cooking oil.



Above: The visit of some members of the Kongowe Anglican Church

Sad news

It has been one year since Muharami Ndete was killed by crocodile at Katundu swamp. The same problem appeared again in 13th January this year when Abdullah Seif Kimbwi from a nearby village called Katundu was killed by a crocodile early in the morning when he went to wash his clothes. Although fellow community members were able to chase the crocodile away Abdullah sadly died of his injuries. As is the custom, Abdullah Kimbwi was buried in the evening of that day.

Good News: Rajabu's Fantastic Secondary School Results



Image by Kirsty Smith

I am pleased to inform our readers that the student who was sponsored by the Rufiji Leprosy Trust (and therefore from your generous donations) from Form I to Form IV at Utete Secondary School has passed his Form IV exams.

Rajabu will now go on to join Form V and then VI. He is one of the three students at Utete school who attained a Division II level pass. Rajabu is very happy to pass his exams; his dream is to study further until he becomes a medical doctor. Rajabu would like to thank the Rufiji Leprosy Trust for their support to date and is grateful that they have been able to commit to supporting him to study for the next two years.

News from the Trustees

International Women's Day

As part of International Women's Day on the 8th March RLT ran stories on our website and social media about two incredible women who have benefited from the support of RLT.

Acheni



We mentioned Acheni in our last Newsletter, her four grandparents came to the village many years ago when they found out they had leprosy.

Acheni attended the Utete school and excelled in her studies. Recognising her abilities, her parents worked hard to ensure she could continue her studies. She has overcome stereotypes, stigma and the challenge of studying for exams whilst living in a village with no mains electricity!

We are delighted to hear she is now a first-year student at Dar es Salaam University, studying for an Electrical Engineering degree.

Mrs Nguyu

Mrs Nguyu arrived in Kindwitwi over fifty years ago when she was diagnosed with leprosy.

She already knew about Kindwitwi as her brother had moved here a few years earlier when he too was diagnosed with leprosy. In Kindwitwi she found a safe place, where no-one was shunned and people could live their lives. At that time there was no cure for leprosy; it was just controlled with drugs like dapsone. However, in the 1980s, Mrs Nguyu was able to have multi drug therapy and she was finally declared fully cured from the disease.

A younger Mrs Nguyu back in 2006, tending her banana crop and preparing maize.



Photo credit Mel Bu

Mrs Nguyu worked hard in her fields through her life to provide for her family. With RLT support, her children went to school and some even went to higher education – one of her children is our centre manager Abdallah.



Mrs Nguyu is now too frail to work, and she is cared for by Abdallah and his family. She still enjoys village life and seeing her family.

William Powell Education Fund

Thank you so much to all of you who have supported the William Powell Education Fund. The fund is in honour of former trustee, Bill Powell, the inspirational teacher and former CEO of the International School of Tanganyika. To date we have raised 762.75 GBP of our £5,000 target for this year. Your donations will be used to support the Kindergarten and to help students like Rajabu and Acheni to further their studies.

If you would like to donate specifically to this fund, you can do this online via our dedicated My Donate Page

<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/williampowelleducation>

Or via a cheque to our treasurer, made payable to 'Rufiji Leprosy Trust', and marked 'William Powell Education Fund' on the back.

Mr Richard Luxmore
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Contacts and information

The Rufiji Leprosy Trust is committed to ensuring your privacy. We do not share your contact details with any other charity or organisation.

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Make cheques payable to Rufiji Leprosy Trust. Tel: +52 (1) 55 44 91 59 59

Banker's Order forms and Tax Declarations are available either on request or from the RLT website.

RLT The Rufiji Leprosy Trust is registered in the UK, Charity no 286242

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Kindwitwi Leprosy Care and Community Development Association

is registered in Tanzania, Certificate No 58593

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