

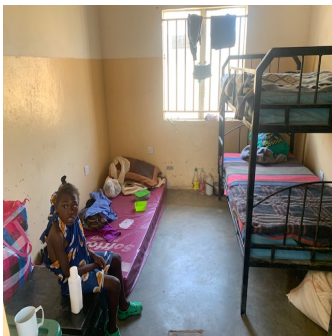
Strathaven Friends of Health Help International

Newsletter No 41

Please find enclosed a copy of the latest HHI Tidings which we hope you will take time to read

Special project to celebrate
HHI'S 25TH Anniversary Year

'Buy a Brick' to help build a new Dormitory for the Special Needs children at Choongo School Read more about this in the Tidings



£25,000 is needed to build a new dormitory for the 60 disabled children who are boarders at the 400 pupil Choongo school. Unfortunately the existing dormitory has only beds for 48 of the children.



This was the school where the Strathaven Explorer Scouts on their visit to Zambia in 2011 carried out painting and repair work to some of the school buildings and presented a large number of toys and educational materials to the children.

Painted Leaf Cards –

While Edmund was in India in February he was able to collect 300 cards and bring them back. Alongside the old favourites of Bluebirds, Flowers and Elephants there are some interesting new designs including a Dancing Girl, and a Nesting Bluebird. Please remember the leaf cards for your birthday greetings and special thank you cards; they also make very poignant condolence cards. If you would like to order cards either go to the website, www.sfhhi.org.uk or phone Kath 07916 171 830.

The Special Needs Fund 2024 Support Group has 40 members who consistently financially support Asha Kiran Ashram and Happy Valley Special Needs Schools as a one off or a regular monthly contribution and this allows the schools to plan ahead. Great things are achieved with your support. A quote from Edmund Plummer's recent eye witness report from India in February illustrates a good example

"Anisery suffers from Cerebral Palsy. When she came to Happy Valley one side (leg and arm) was disabled, but physiotherapy has rectified this. She also needed a heart operation. She continues to suffer from autism and a low IQ. Proper special needs teaching has enabled her to learn the alphabet (no mean feat – it has several hundred symbols), basic arithmetic and the ability to understand simple words. This does illustrate so well the benefits of flexible and tailored special needs provision, something that Happy Valley does so well."



HHI on Film -

A total of sixteen films produced by the BPFC film company on its visits to India and Zambia are now available to be viewed on either the SFHHI website at www.sfhhi.org.uk or on HHI's web site.

These provide excellent accounts of HHI's work in both these countries and are well worth while viewing.

Round Strathaven 50 –

HHI received another very generous donation of £6000 for HHI from the RS50 Committee following last year's event. This sum has been used to give a great start to the Choongo Dormitory fund raising and has been sent to Zambia to enable materials to be purchased at present prices as inflation is rampant in Zambia.

The latest news from HHZ in Zambia reports that work on the foundations has already been started using this money.

Ragbag –

We are trying to increase the amount of money raised from the scheme. The metal container in the Trinity Church car park is filled on a regular basis. Items for the scheme can also be left at Avendale, Glassford and Chapleton Churches. The Hamilton Bridge Club has allowed us to reinstate the metal container in its car park which previously proved to be very productive. As on the previous occasion the adjacent St Marys Episcopal Church in Hamilton is supporting our scheme and encouraging its members to donate items.

Its time now for all of you to clear out all your unwanted clothes, footwear and leather items during your Spring Cleaning. Let us know if you would like items to be uplifted – phone either of the numbers below.

Cafe Bridge Day –

Following on from the success of last year's Café Bridge we are planning to repeat this event in 2024. This year we will be hosting it on Wednesday, 12th June. Several cafes have signed up for the day and the bridge entries have started rolling in. If you play bridge come along for an enjoyable day visiting venues around Strathaven, either make up a table or come as a pair, and even if you don't have a partner we will be able to find one for you. If you don't play but know someone who does, please invite them to come along. All the proceeds from this year's event will be going towards the Choongo School Dormitory Fund. Hope you or someone you know can make it on the day.

To enter go on line to **Brianbridge.net/sven24**

Any donations you can give us for the raffle which always makes a significant contribution to the amount of money we raise on these occasions will be gratefully received.

Kath Russell to visit Zambia in October

Kath has signed up to accompany Jute Williams on her annual visit to the HHZ headquarters in Monze in October this year where the Strathaven Explorers stayed in 2008 and 2011. We'll look forward to hearing her first hand reports on all the great works which HHI is supporting in Zambia.

On behalf of the **SFHHI** Committee

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