

We keep our promises – thanks to you!

Do you remember the desperate situation facing the Khulanathi Educare Centre? We wrote to you a while back pleading for help in supplying a container toilet block, as the little children attending the single shack nursery-school had NO lavatory facilities whatsoever – they were forced to relieve themselves outside or use buckets.

We'll never forget the community worker who told us, with great dignity and pain, of the many times visitors to this little school had promised help – and were never heard of again.

Well, this story has a happy ending. First of all, you gave so generously that we were able to supply the toilet block these little ones needed so badly. But there was more to come! The Van Dedem Stichting (foundation), based in Holland, was so moved by their plight, they decided to replace the rickety shack with an entire educare centre: so as well as the hygienic ablution block you supplied, there are now two brand-new container classrooms and a kitchen for preparing much-needed meals!

The new Khulanathi Educare Centre was officially opened, with much joy and excitement, on 18 July – Nelson Mandela's 94th birthday, and also the date the United Nations has designated International Mandela Day.

We're delighted to be partners in this amazing account of what becomes possible when we join hands together. These extremely poor and deprived children now have safety, security, dignity and a daily hot meal!



Strong, sturdy container classrooms – a far cry from the original leaky shack!



The little children at Khulanathi gaze in wonder at their new facilities.



Putting our hands together for our donors: Linda and Edna from BLA, with Pastor Joy Klimbashe and Lindiwe Zoya, the principal.

Winter warmers: soup and bread the Breadline Africa way

This year, winter was unusually cold and wet – we even had snow – so we really got behind two campaigns to try and fill little tummies. We know that hungry children can't learn, and we're also sadly familiar with the shocking statistics – one in every five South African children will suffer stunted growth because of malnutrition. To try and make a difference, on National Soup Day (31 May), we headed to Hillwood Primary School in the Cape Flats, where we were able to give over a thousand children a cup of comforting soup with bread. Next stop was Prestwich Primary, where nearly 800 children got something hot to eat and drink.



A cup of good cheer with the children at Hillwood Primary.



Filling little tummies at Prestwich Primary.



Staff at Spar are all smiles as they donate much-needed bread.

We used these visits as a launch pad for our "Spread the Bread" campaign. This started as one of our Mandela Day projects (when the nation does 67 minutes of community service to thank the great man for his years of service). Soon we were heading out on Wednesdays with a specially adapted container to take sandwiches to a different school every week during winter. A huge "Thank you!" to Spar in Elsie's River, on the Cape Flats, which generously donated bread, both for "Spread the Bread" and National Soup Day. Here's the recipe we used – our famous Chicken Noodle Soup.

A little oil for frying

- 2 deboned skinless chicken breasts cut into bite-sized pieces*
- 900 ml of chicken or vegetable stock*
- 2 finely chopped onions*
- 100 grams of dried noodles*
- 2 tablespoons frozen sweetcorn or canned sweetcorn*
- 2 grated carrots*
- Parsley*
- Salt and pepper to taste*

Method

- Fry onions gently in pot until translucent.
- Add chicken pieces and cook for 20 minutes
- Add stock, noodles, carrots and sweetcorn to the onion and chicken mix.
- Bring to boil and simmer until all the veggies and the chicken are tender.
- Add salt and pepper to taste. Eat hot with fresh-baked bread.
- Serves four. Enjoy!



Edna with the children of Denemeer Primary in Blackheath.



An icon opens a library in honour of an icon

We're all brushing stardust out of our eyes, after none other than Mary Robinson, former UN Commissioner for Human Rights and former President of Ireland, officially opened the latest Mandela library at Vuyani Primary School on 6 August 2012. This school, in one of the oldest townships in Cape Town, is celebrating its 50th founding anniversary this year.

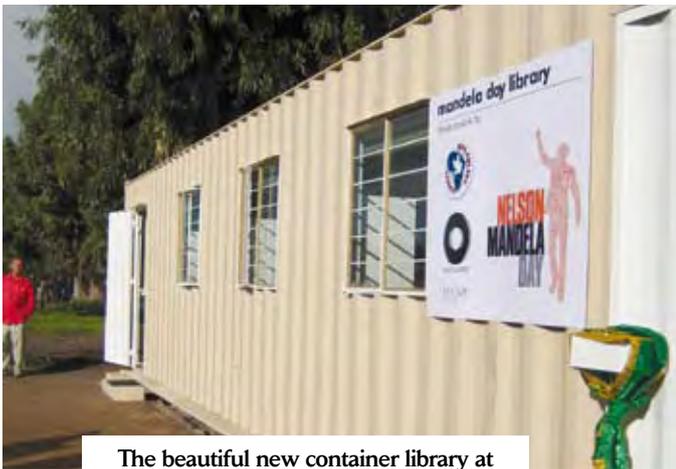
Thanks must go to Unako, an organisation that set out to mentor high school learners. However, they soon found that plans to encourage reading were futile when schools had no libraries. When they heard about our Mandela library project, they approached us, and with generous help from the Parish Church Council of St Michaels, Tilehurst, and the Macquarie Group, we were able to supply this school with a fully renovated container library. We're so grateful for this wonderful example of all hands pulling together.

The school choir and representatives from these organisations celebrated a day we won't forget in a hurry! And this wasn't



Never to be forgotten: Mary Robinson reads to rapt learners.

all: Mary Robinson opened another container library at Meadowlands Primary School in Soweto two days later. It was an honour to have someone this distinguished join us in this project so close to the heart of South Africans.



The beautiful new container library at Vuyani Primary School.



What a line-up! Mary Robinson, BLA Director Tim Smith, Robert Michel and Marco Andolfi from Room to Read, and Lonwabi Mambani and Yanga Zenani from Unako.

Reportbacks



Little Angels container soup kitchen: You're wrapping these little children in real warmth and love this winter – we're so grateful.



Lady Frere container classroom: For the first time, these learners will have a shiny and secure new classroom – no more leaky roof and crumbling walls!



Let The Hungry Be Fed container toilet block: We're always so thrilled when you enable us to give the gift of dignity.



Tulbagh food parcels: Don't be fooled by the blue skies – it was bitterly cold when we handed out much-needed food parcels to these desperately poor families. Thank you so much for your compassion.

Breadline Africa meets the Elephant's Child: A trip to Limpopo Province

We told you about this scenic but little-developed and poverty-stricken region in our last newsletter – it shares borders with Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique, and is a crossroads for refugees and migrants.

With a new project manager, Puleng Phooko at the helm, it was time to head back north to monitor Breadline Africa's ongoing projects in this most remote and northerly province. One of the biggest shocks since our last trip was seeing the impact of the drought on the region.

So it came as no surprise to find that some of the projects we support were struggling to keep their food gardens going – and that a very common request was for funding for boreholes, pumps and water tanks, or to mend taps and irrigation.

There was no doubt when we visited Nhlayiso Educare Centre, which has a borehole and spraying pipes, all sponsored by Breadline Africa, that the effect was dramatic. We found a huge greenhouse and veggie garden, bursting with beetroot, tomatoes, spinach, okra, butternuts, corn, beans and more. The 130 children at the centre were getting nutritious meals, and community members were buying surplus veggies cheaply, and without having to travel long distances to shops. Local government was providing agricultural advice, and women were being trained to prepare, and feed and irrigate the soil. You could see the real difference our sponsorship had made in the whole community's lives.

We were able to revisit many old friends, and assess the impact of the local projects we support. Even in these tough times, made worse by drought, we could see that jobs were

being created, especially for local women. Many children were getting at least one decent meal a day at the nursery schools and drop-in centres, and there was an improved awareness of hygiene throughout the region.



Green is good: food for a community



Breadline Africa's water storage tank turns this community garden into an oasis.

Saluting Women on Women's Day

Here at Breadline Africa we celebrated Women's Day this year by hosting a lunch at our offices on 8 August for all the dedicated teachers at the various educare centres, whom some of you have met and that we support. Over forty dedicated teachers attended – it was a great pleasure to get a chance to thank them for the stalwart work they do. Our special guest speaker was Councillor Beverley Cortje-Alcok, MP, Social and Early Childhood Development.



Teachers sing and dance up a storm at our Women's Day lunch.



Edna and Tim with MP Beverley Cortje-Alcok, of the Dept of Social and Early Childhood Development.



Laughter for smiles

We work hard at relieving the devastating impact that poverty has on children – not enough proper education, care or food – but we know they need moments of pure joy too. That's why we raise funds each year for a seaside outing for very poor children. We've started a tradition of an annual comedy show, and this year was our third successful show. Popular South African comedy stars Nik Rabinowitz and Mark Lottering performed free of charge, and tickets were sold out a month before the event! We're delighted to announce that we raised over R12,000 (£1,000) towards a day of relief and relaxation for little children who know only grinding poverty.

Africa Calling

Old friends Louise Seligman (Chair, Breadline Africa UK) and Claire Brisby (Director of Helwel Trust) ran into each other by chance in Africa – and were inspired to work together. Geoffrey de Jager, Trustee of the Rhodes University Trust UK also joined forces with them – Geoffrey has recently received an honorary doctorate for his contributions to education in South Africa. One result of their determination to work as

a team to further their common goals is a treat for our UK friends this November – a fundraising dinner with an exotic African menu and Zulu dancing in London.

All funds raised will go to projects that have been ear-marked by each of the charities. Funds raised for Breadline Africa will go towards our project in the remote rural village of Lady Frere, where children attend school in a single crumbling room – as you may remember from our recent appeal. We're hoping that this fundraiser will help us to provide additional container classrooms for children and adults seeking skills training and employment in this remote region. For more information and tickets, please visit www.breadlineafrica.org.uk/africa-calling-event.

Meet our marvellous new friends at St Barnabas in Ealing

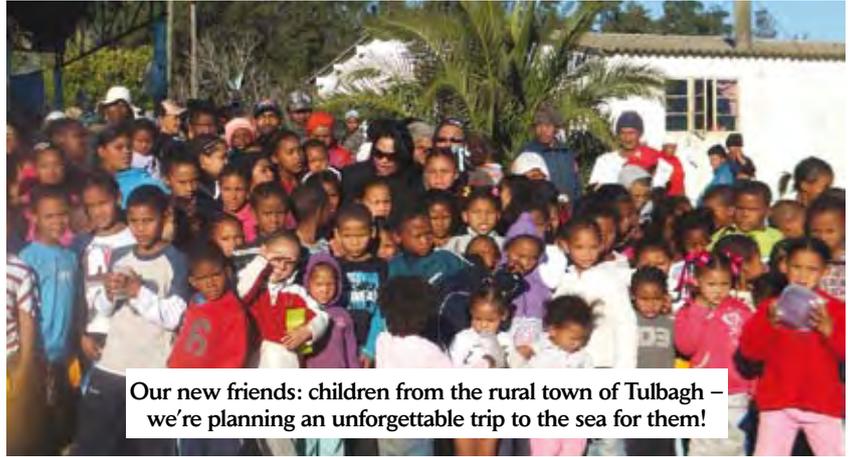


We're so proud! The wonderful folk of St Barnabas have decided to adopt Breadline Africa as one of the three charities they'll be supporting. They got off to an amazing start with three projects – a "lentbox" charity collection, a plant sale and offertory collections. Pastoral Assistant Angela Draper helped children make the cute container lorries and boxes you see here – Aimee Beck and Libby Bartle are showing them off. Next, parishioner Camilla Newbegin offered half of the proceeds of her annual plant sale for church funds to Breadline Africa! Meanwhile, the vicar, Reverend David Deboys, along with old friends Peter and Susan Haisman, spread our message during sermons and services. We're overwhelmed – especially to hear that these amazing efforts raised £2505.91! Thank you and bless you!

What does our summer hold?

There aren't many signs of spring yet, but we're already looking forward to our annual summer outing to the seaside. This year, we're hoping to take the children of the rural poor from the Tulbagh area on a never-to-be-forgotten trip – for most of them, the first time they'll ever see the sea! Watch out for more details of our plans soon.

And for our Christmas food parcels, we're going even deeper into the rural hinterland, to the town of Gouda. We'll keep you posted on how you can help!



Our new friends: children from the rural town of Tulbagh – we're planning an unforgettable trip to the sea for them!

Donations from the USA!



We have great news for our many friends in the United States of America – at last you have your own donation portal. Breadline Africa has been accepted by the American Fund for Charities, which means you can now make safe and tax-deductible donations to any of our projects. Visit www.breadlineafrica.org.uk/usadonations for more details.

Breadline Africa is now open 24/7 – online!



We love it when you visit our offices here in Cape Town, but we know it's not always the most practical way for you to keep in touch. But you can always find us online!

- To receive our latest "tweets", follow @breadlineafrica – that way you'll be instantly in touch with our updates, news and competitions.
- You can find us on Facebook – go to www.facebook.com/breadlineafrica. "Friend" us and "like" our page – then drop in any time to see what we're up to!

• Breadline Africa is on YouTube too: for video clips showing what we do daily, log on to www.youtube.com/user/breadlineafrica, and then click on the "subscribe" button.

• If you'd like to see photos of what we do, log on to www.flickr.com/photos/breadlineafrica.

• And finally: don't forget our fresh, recently revamped website www.breadlineafrica.org.uk – here you can sign up for our email newsletter, or you can read our blog at www.breadlineafrica.org/blog.

Donating online made easy AND secure

The Internet – now part of our daily lives! You can even donate to Breadline Africa online, but you might have questions or concerns about how to go about it.

Just ask us for our "how to donate AND be safe" instructions if you're interested in donating this way. It really is as simple as clicking your mouse, and it's completely secure! Send us an email, and we'll gladly answer any questions you might have.

Our friends and supporters are fit!



In our last newsletter, we told you about **Steve D'Souza** and his determination to climb Africa's highest mountain, Kilimanjaro, to raise funds for Breadline Africa. Well, here he is, flying the Breadline Africa flag on the roof of Africa! We're so proud of him, and deeply grateful to everyone who sponsored him. Well done Steve!

We also take our hats off to **Edward Evans**, who arranged a tennis tournament in Sussex, with Breadline Africa benefitting from the funds raised. Our thanks to everyone who took part.

Right here in the beautiful mountains of the Western Cape, **Sorrel Carmichael** took part in the Bain's Trail Run – up some very steep mountains and across a river or two – and asked her sponsors to give generously to Breadline Africa. Thank you, Sorrel, we hope you enjoyed the scenery!

The boys of **King Edward's School** in Birmingham also caught the running bug. They came up with the novel idea of raising funds for charity by running the distance from their school to the North Pole – in laps around the school during their PE lessons and at lunchtimes. All that sweat and sacrifice amounted to a generous donation – we're delighted and very grateful!

Then came the cyclists! The Taylor family decided to ride 100 miles along the Devon coast to raise funds for Breadline Africa. Daughter Sally (ten years old) posted her adventures along the way on her JustGiving page, which was fantastic for us – and it sounds like she had fun too!

Not to be outdone, our very own Director Tim Smith rode in the famous local Argus Cycle Tour, a gruelling and scenic journey around the Cape Peninsula – not for the faint-hearted. And Nthabi Mhlokoana, who's on our South African Advisory Committee, ran the Two Oceans marathon, a 56 kilometre run that's known as the "world's most beautiful marathon". Both grabbed the opportunity to raise funds for Breadline Africa. Well done Tim and Nthabi! You talk the talk, and you more than walk the walk!

Donor visits



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1. Rev Ron and Mrs Giddy Hart, from Wiltshire in the UK.

2. Prof John and Mrs Gill Burland, from Wheathampsted in the UK.

3. Mrs Brenda Cawthorn (left) and her daughter Mrs Bronwyn Putman, from Southport in the UK.

4. Silvia and Nello Correale from Rome, Italy, visiting Founder Educare Centre in Khayelitsha, Cape Town.



Edna's column

I would also like to convey a personal word of thanks to all of you who have remembered Breadline Africa in your will. Because you care, those less fortunate can look forward to a brighter future. If this is something you're considering, did you know that we have prepared a special brochure explaining how to go about it? Just drop me a line and I'll send one along. We'll gladly answer any questions you might have – and of course, your queries will be treated as strictly confidential. For more information please visit www.breadlineafrica.org.uk/legacy.

Dear Friends

It was great fun working on this edition of our newsletter. It's always such a pleasure to share our achievements with you, especially the campaigns you've supported so generously.

I know you didn't get much sun this summer, so we've included a delicious soup recipe to help you warm up as you go into autumn.

And speaking of warmth, your friendship and original fundraising initiatives never fail to amaze and delight me. Many of you have arranged coffee mornings, auctions, special collections at your churches, talks at schools and fun walks. Check the donor news section to see what wonderful, creative things you're getting up to! Thank you for including your children and grandchildren in these events – you're helping to make the world a better place.

As you know, we've been working very closely with the Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory Institute in supplying container libraries to many needy schools around the country, and we'll keep updating you on the news from this ongoing project.

You'll notice another initiative has been launched – Africa Calling. This fundraiser comes from three dynamic people and charities putting their heads together to support poverty relief in Africa. It couldn't come at a better time for us, as we've been reaching out to the people of Lady Frere, a remote village in the Eastern Cape region, where there is desperate need, as you know from our recent appeal.

We live in a world that is dominated by computer technology, with new ways of communicating every day. You might have noticed that we have also taken the plunge into the world of social media – so now you can find us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube! All the links you need to find us online are in this newsletter.

You'll have noticed that we're now sending you thank-you letters and news of our campaigns via electronic mail. It's a much faster and more reliable means of communicating, and for you, it's a safe and speedy way of giving.

I do hope that that our quicker and safer means of making donations will inspire you to give a little to my special container piggybank. There are more and more calls on it all the time, and there's nothing like the feeling of being able to say "YES" when a really urgent and deserving project needs one of our magic can-do containers.

When you are next in South Africa, please do pop into our office. I would love to meet you and show you some of the projects that you have so wholeheartedly supported.

Until next time.

With lots of love and many thanks,

Edna

Don't forget: £1 = £1.25 at no extra cost to you!

How you can help us even more: if you are a British taxpayer, please remember to fill in and sign your Gift Aid Declaration, which allows us to claim 25% back on the donations you give us. This means we can do 25% more for poor communities – at no extra cost to you!

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