

# Newsletter Summer 2011

## Sponsor a Village

We are pleased to introduce a major initiative to assure the long term support for the work of IcFEM in the community!

It's no use presenting the Gospel to the poor in rural communities unless you also try to do something about their poverty. Hand outs are a waste of money – a drop in the ocean. They are soon gone. IcFEM doesn't believe in hand outs, but by training and teaching village communities to help themselves they can rise above mere subsistence. The poverty – ignorance cycle can be broken.

Five years ago IcFEM supporters helped to start the community transformation program in a handful of villages. Villagers were introduced to the Good News of the gospel and then trained in different areas

such as evangelism, agriculture, health care, family life and many more. This training enabled individuals and whole communities to be transformed. The key to the success is the focus on training, NOT on aid. Giving a hand up rather than a hand out.

Five years on, the growth has been truly miraculous. Well over 1000 villages are involved in the transformation process and hundreds of thousands of people. The good news of the gospel is spreading like wildfire. God has worked miracles among the people of Kimilili and surrounding areas.

Teams of volunteer specialists who have already been trained by IcFEM are now helping to train people in other villages. This however requires a huge effort involving over 100 teachers, missionaries, agricultural specialists, and many others. It requires

many resources and so, we need your prayers more than ever. Our resources are stretched to the limit.

Please would you also consider becoming a Village Transformation Sponsor and so play a vital role in this amazing work?



"The Lord is my strength and song and He has become my salvation. The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tents of the righteous; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly"

Psalm 118:14,15



Accelerating Community Transformation

## Sponsor a Village - Continued

We have set the cost at £18.50 per month for an IcFEM team to reach a village and train them in community development.

We are not giving aid to a village but funding the cost of the IcFEM team to lead the transformation work. Initially, you will be allocated a village and sent photos and information about the surrounding area. As a sponsor we'll email you with regular stories of how God is moving in all the villages we are helping. This will also appear on [www.sponsoravillage.org.uk](http://www.sponsoravillage.org.uk).

This will help you to build up a picture of what is going on all over Western Kenya through the work of IcFEM. If you wish to visit your village we can arrange for this to happen. We will also send you regular prayer updates so you can pray for the work of IcFEM.

Check out the Sponsor a Village website – watch the video and read the stories

**PLEASE HELP** – you can really make a difference.



## Guitar Rags & God's Riches

Rev Laurie Burn is vicar of Totterdown Baptist Church in Bristol. When he isn't preaching the gospel he is a singer / songwriter / guitarist and guitar maker.

When Laurie and Karen visited Kimilili they were blown away by what they found. Laurie has released a superb new CD which I can highly recommend. It's an eclectic mix of Scot Joplin piano rags that Laurie has arranged for guitar together with folk / gospel / protest. Kendrick meets Dylan meets Clapton?

See the flyer to order – half the profits go to IcFEM and half to his church.  
Peter Latham – Chairman of Trustees

## - IcFEM Gap Experience - Laurie & Karen Burn

It was a rejuvenating experience for two 55 year-olds to be accepted as Gap Volunteers at IcFEM for four weeks in October 2010. We spent the first half of our 3 month sabbatical in Kenya – our first ever trip to Africa – although Karen's parents lived and worked as architects in Nairobi in the late 1940s.

The great thing about being a gap volunteer at IcFEM is that Jo the gap co-ordinator designed a programme tailor-made for our gifts and experience. As a Baptist pastor in Bristol, Laurie wanted an opportunity to taste ministry and mission in Kenya. Leading Bible studies in several Local Units and preaching in different churches, but without the pressures of leadership responsibility, made the visit truly a refreshing sabbatical break. Laurie is also a keen woodworker and wildlife photographer and there were plenty of openings to indulge both passions in Kimilili.

Karen is also very practical and has skills in needlecrafts, so she enjoyed making a difference to Kenyan lives by teaching knitting to disabled ladies, who subsequently formed a co-operative, and making curtains for Dreamland Medical Care Centre. Both of these projects were described in the Autumn Newsletter.

On our return to Bristol for the second half of our sabbatical, Laurie recorded a CD entitled *Guitar Rags & God's Riches*, comprising ragtime guitar instrumentals and original songs charting his spiritual journey. Karen sings backing vocals on some tracks. Half of the profits from sales of the CD will go to support the work of IcFEM, and the accompanying booklet contains photos of people we met in and around Kimilili. More details, and a sampler of the music, can be found at [www.laurieguitars.co.uk](http://www.laurieguitars.co.uk).



## Village Discipleship Schools

The Transformation programme has developed rapidly, and it has become increasingly clear how essential it is for those who have joined it to have a full understanding not just of the way of salvation, but of the full implications of discipleship. As Paul found with the early church, the practical way to do this is to share the teaching – as he said to Timothy “The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses, entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others” (2 Tim. 2.2)



From this vision, the plan has been developed for “Village Discipleship Schools”. Trained Facilitators (“Disciplers”) will run a course of Bible studies for 10 people in each village; which will cover:

Biblically Sound Doctrine,  
Skill in Discipling New Christians  
Practical Christian Living.

There will be 2 sessions per week, each lasting 2 hours, and the course will run for 6 months. Each participant will be provided with a Bible (for which they pay half the cost), a course booklet and discipleship manual.

Initially, 38 Facilitators have attended a 3 day training course at Head Quarters, and will start work this month. 520 people will have been disciplined by the end of the course – and will be equipped to “teach others also”. It is planned to hold a Graduation ceremony in November.

The cost of the first course of discipleship has been met by a Thanksgiving Gift from Christ Church, Beckenham, which has had a long association with the mission since Ann Lipson was a member of the congregation before she moved to work in Kenya.

## A visit from World Vision!

We had a team of seven visiting us from World Vision in Tanzania. They were quite an international group and have between them worked all over the world in different sectors (business, education, development). They had heard about the work of IcFEM and wanted to come and learn from us how we manage to combine spiritual and practical development.

We had a great time with them, meeting at the Headquarters, orientation around Kimilili and then visiting a new unit (Kwanza) and also 2 established units (Ndivisi and Kamukuywa) to see fellowships in action. The reception from staff and community alike was fantastic and

the team loved their time with us. Personally it was great to see IcFEM presented to the visitors - there were some things that I saw and learned for the first time and the conversations that we were able to have about God and how he is working here were very inspiring.

The most encouraging thing that I wanted to share with you all was a comment that one of them made to me. He said that this is the most successful model of God-founded community transformation that he had ever seen! They were so impressed, and encouraged us to keep going, even though times have been hard in the past.

## The Saga of the Dentaid Clinic

2005 – Dentaid-funded surgery equipment for 2 rooms is crated and sent to Kenya. Protracted negotiations take place for release by Customs (the Mission will not resort to bribery)

2006 The crate arrives at Kimilili where the rooms are ready but there was no electricity

2008 After many problems and missed deadlines, power is connected. Meanwhile additional funds were raised to paint and tile the rooms and add doors.

2010 A dental engineer from a hospital in Eldoret arrives with a plumber and carpenter and the packing case is opened – all the equipment was in perfect condition. The packing case itself was used to make storage cupboards.

2011 The Clinic is commissioned on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Patients were treated by Dr Catherine Kodhe.



## Peter's 3 Peak Challenge

Peter Latham (IcFEM Europe's Chairman) and a group of friends are to climb Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon inside 24 hours to raise £25,000 to buy IcFEM two 2nd hand Landrover Defenders to replace clapped out vehicles and help farm training and Community Transformation to continue. IcFEM works in some very hard to reach places a long way of the main tarmac roads, vehicles take a lot of punishment on these roads but are vital to the running of the mission. You can sponsor Peter here: [www.justgiving.com/peter-latham](http://www.justgiving.com/peter-latham) or find out more on his website: [www.peterlatham.org](http://www.peterlatham.org)



## Stories from DMCC

**Faith** had been diagnosed with cerebral palsy secondary to hypoxic damage at birth following a long labour. She was able to sit, and was trying to stand up. She is a bright girl and wanted to be able to stand and walk, but found standing hard because her legs and ankles were weak. Faith was given physiotherapy, strengthening exercises, posture management and functional tasks to practice at home. Mellan, our Orthopaedic technologist, also made Faith some foot splints (AFO's) and she was given a pair of supportive boots. She can now walk holding her parents hand and is nearly able to walk with no help other than her splints and boots. So from a child who could only sit and lie down at the age of 3 years old, Faith is now seeing the world from the upright position and walking.



**Jacob** is a gentleman who following a neurological event had been paralysed and unable to sit up or leave his compound in over 10 years. He was seen at a medical outreach Clinic, given medical treatment, advice and exercises to try to allow him to sit in a chair again. The students from the Hague University set about making him a special reclining wheelchair adapted from a chair

that was sent out with the Wheel for the World team. One month after the team first visited he was able to sit up for the first time in 10 years. Both he and his family were delighted and he was taken to church for the first time in many years. Hope has come to him, his family and the whole community and all glory witness to God.



Jacob in his new specially designed chair, waving goodbye after we visited him



Members of Jacob's family and village with members of the Dreamland and Bethesda Pool team after he was placed in his chair for the first time

Keep updated by visiting  
[www.icfem-mission.org](http://www.icfem-mission.org)

## How things have changed!

Becky writes : "Today at DMCC, Violet, (a lady aged in her mid 20's) was admitted very early in the morning. She was not able to stand up, had a very, very high breathing rate (twice normal), was gasping for breath, and was clearly very pale. The night nurse and overnight Clinical Officer admitted her and were handing her clinical situation over to CO Kiprop as we were arriving at 7.30am to start our morning devotions before work.



The Laboratory staff started straight away doing her blood tests, while CO Kiprop and Sister Margaret assessed her. She was diagnosed with severe malaria ,and severe anemia (her haemoglobin was very low, about 4.8g/l , compared with normal of 13g/l) and she had right lower lobe pneumonia.



Kiprop sorted out some antibiotics and anti-malaria treatment for her. I was asked to

have a look at her from a respiratory point of view. Her SPO2 (oxygen saturation) was very low, in the 90's, so we started a few litres of oxygen and used the nebuliser to administer it. She was given chest physiotherapy and some oxygen and soon her breathing rate was much better and SPO2 recovering.



In the meantime Charles and Bony had tested the blood group and arranged for blood to come from Kimilili DH, so we drove there and picked it up. The Lab then did cross matching and Sister Margaret, Jael and Kiprop all sorted out giving her the blood transfusion. By lunchtime, she was sitting up in bed waving at us, coughing and clearing her chest with no problem, far less pale, talking in full sentences, requiring less oxygen and smiling that we had saved her life!



## How things have changed! - Continued

Sister Margaret said that she is going to remember that patient for the rest of her life because 3 months ago we had no oxygen, no nebuliser, no SPO2 meter and no blood transfusion facilities and we would not have been able to treat her. Where as today, she has been treated by a great team, with the right treatment using gifted equipment, and Sister Margaret thinks she will be home in a couple of days rejoicing!"

Praise God!

Charles Wanyama joined the staff this year. He graduated in 2009 and worked as a locum at Lugulu mission hospital before working as a locum at DMCC where he is now employed full time as Lab Technician, thanks to sponsorship. He runs the new blood transfusion service, is part of the 7 day lab rota, and joins in the medical outreach



service. He lives about 45 minutes away, travelling in on public transport each day. Another newcomer to DMCC is nurse Getfine Lukamba who graduated from training college in 2010. She is married with three children and has a particular interest in treating children, health education and immunisation. She will run the immunisation and mother and child clinics as well as working on the wards. Sponsorship has again made her appointment possible.

## Another Success

Another successful Eye Camp was held from May 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> when 137 patients were assessed and 83 operations carried out.



## Keep in touch!

If you change your address, or email address, please let the IcFEM-Mission (Europe) office know – and keep updated:

[www.icfem-mission.blogspot.com](http://www.icfem-mission.blogspot.com)

[www.icfem-mission.org](http://www.icfem-mission.org)

### IcFEM - Mission (Europe)

16 Campbell Drive, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, HP9 1TF, UK

Phone: +44 (0)7583 407 563

Email: [office@icfem-mission.org](mailto:office@icfem-mission.org) [www.icfem-mission.org](http://www.icfem-mission.org)

Charity Registration No: 1107038

### IcFEM - Mission (Kenya)

Private Bag, Kimilili 50204 Kenya

Phone: +254 55 21252 Email: [office@icfem.org](mailto:office@icfem.org)

[www.icfem-mission.org](http://www.icfem-mission.org) [www.gap-volunteers.icfem-mission.org](http://www.gap-volunteers.icfem-mission.org)

Registered in Kenya under the Societies Act No: 19347