

# OUTREACH ACROSS AFRICA

**May 2010 Newsletter**  
From Andy Groome

**“This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles”.**  
**Psalms: 34 verse 6**

Hi to all my friends,

I am writing to you as I come to the end of my trip in South Africa. I have been here for just over seven weeks and have travelled in and around two provinces, the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal. My first stop was back to the village where I lived for a year in 2004-2005. I visited my friends for about a week and whilst there, visited people in their homes to spend time with them and pray with them. We also visited some of the old projects that we had started in the past. Many of these people are in poverty and their needs are very big and real.

## **World Cup comes to South Africa**

It's very exciting to see some of the preparations for the World Cup that will be starting in June here in South Africa. I've been very lucky to have visited the new Moses Mabhida Stadium in Durban. I am looking forward to watching the World Cup in England with my family and friends. It's worth remembering though, that while we are watching this along with all the wealth South Africa has, that many millions of people are in poverty in the very same country. Many people I know in South Africa can't afford to buy a ticket to go and watch any of the matches, in fact they can't even afford a TV. Some of my friends pick the tea that we will be drinking in the half time break in our living rooms. They earn about £5 per day.

**CHECK OUT OUR NEXT MEETING @ LUTON CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP WHERE YOU CAN  
CATCH UP ON HOW WE ARE HELPING THE POOR. SEE OVER PAGE OR AT  
[www.outreachacrossafrica.org](http://www.outreachacrossafrica.org)**

## **Health Course for the Poor**

Also whilst in the Eastern Cape we partnered with a group called “*Peoples Light Organisation*”. They are a small registered organisation and comprise a group of retired nurses and health workers. They came recommended to us by friends who have partnered with them in the past. The aim is to give people who mainly live in poor and remote rural areas, the opportunity to learn valuable information and skills from experienced people on a Primary Health Course. This is exactly what happened; fifty seven students attended the five day course that we, Outreach Across Africa, funded. They were so willing to learn new skills that many walked up to two hours each way. On the last day many came in their best clothes to take the test and receive their certificates. I was overwhelmed with their keenness to learn and the long hours spent in the little tin roofed church in the remote village of the Mpondomise area of the Eastern Cape. I want to thank you all for making this possible, the nurses and health workers who gave up five days of their time and travelled away from their homes and to all of you who funded this. The feedback from people was very positive.



## Mighty Men Conference 2010

I visited Shalom Fellowship where I met many good friends again, also making many more friends at the Mighty Men Conference that was attended by approximately two hundred thousand men, all camping for the weekend to hear God and listen to Angus Buchan. God spoke powerfully and many people's lives have been impacted and changed through this conference.

## Back to Lindelani Township

You may remember that last year I visited Marc and Mandy Poree who pastor Shalom Fellowship near Greytown. Through them we were able to start helping with funds towards the wages of Lauren Cawood the



Nurse and Veronica and Prisca the Pre-School teachers. They work looking after the health and early years of these little babies and children who are living in the shanty town, Lindelani, just on the outskirts of Greytown. In 2009 we promised to give £30 per month towards this project but almost straight after our meetings last year because of your interest, we were able to double it to

£60 per month. I visited the township with Lauren and saw what very difficult and deprived conditions these people live in. I was also shown by Lauren the new amazing facilities just outside the township that have been built since my last visit.

The work that they are able to do is fantastic and makes a huge

difference to a lot of little lives in the baby care unit and the preschool building, giving the children a safe and happy environment to play and learn in and at the same time have their medical needs met by Lauren.



## Find out more

To find out more about what we are doing in helping the poor, please feel free to come and enjoy our evening at **Luton Christian Fellowship (LCF), Cnr Hibbert/Castle Street, Luton, Beds. LU1**

**3AL on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 7:30pm.** To locate LCF please visit either [www.lcf.biz](http://www.lcf.biz) or

[www.outreachcrossafrica.org](http://www.outreachcrossafrica.org)

## Where and Who are the Poor?

There are many people in poverty who live many thousands of miles away around our world. Some even live in our own neighbourhoods and some in our own homes. **“This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles” Psalm: 34 v6.** God asks all of us to always talk to him by praying, not necessarily because of our needs but just as a friend. We are all in need of God our maker. We can all be in poverty in some way at times in our lives. Some are in poverty through lack of food and means to just exist with a roof over our head. Some of us are in poverty spiritually through a lack of friendship with our God. Many of us may have both. God asks us to talk to him, but we are also instructed to love our neighbours as ourselves. It is part of God's plan for us to be aware of people around us who are in need. We are a part of God's answer to the poor when they call out to Him in prayer.

While out in South Africa I saw a caption from a dialogue with Rosa Parks the Black American activist who fought most of her life against oppression. She said, **“In order to bring about change one must not be afraid to take the first step, or else it will not be done. The only failure is failing to try. We will fail when we fail to try. Each and every one of us can make a difference”.** Rosa Parks.

Rosa Parks and great people like her have made a massive difference to millions of people. And I am inspired by these people when I see what they have achieved.

Thank you, because together we are making a big difference in the lives of many people. Andy Groome