

## OCTOBER 2014

### Sue's trip report



*Sue Fallon, General Manager of EIUK writes.*

September saw me visiting South Africa and Tanzania. The primary purpose of the trip was to monitor the DfID supported stoves project in Tanzania.

### South Africa

Apart from many hours in Johannesburg airport, this was my first trip to South Africa, Cape Town in particular. The reason for the trip was to spend some time with the Sayers family and see first-hand the projects they are working on. It was really good to visit the safe houses. We have been hearing about these

projects and have been praying for them for a long time, but to meet the house parents and see the children being cared for and loved in a family environment, was a blessing. The children come from various different, difficult backgrounds and sometimes find it hard to trust and to be comfortable, based on their previous experiences. The house mothers do an amazing job at helping them adjust. It is a challenge and we need to continue to pray for them.

Spending quality time with the Sayers family was also very important and they managed to incorporate some very beautiful spots while doing this. We did the Two Oceans Challenge (Don's version) which means see how long it would take us to dip our toes in the Indian Ocean and then the Atlantic Ocean - it took 20 minutes! I also got the chance to hike to the top of Table Mountain with Don and the children.



From front to back: Nate, Hudson, Danielle, Rachel and Don Sayers



# Iringa, Tanzania



**From left to right: Andrew, Bethany, Sam, Miriam and Ben Wingfield**

The first part of my Tanzania visit was in Iringa where, as well as visiting projects, I spent some quality time with the Wingfield family. In 12 days, we were able to visit 13 projects and 3 churches in 8 villages! It was good to see the difference that these projects are having in the villages.

## Stoves projects

It was really helpful to see the stoves project at all the different stages, from initial discussion in one village to fired stoves in another village. The activities in-between included seeing the making of the actual stove and being at the various workshops/discussions



**Ikengeza stoves group**

on the benefits and the selling of the stoves. I hadn't realised until seeing the process, that a stove is not made by one individual, but that all of the group members are involved in the production of each stove. The expected benefits of the stoves projects were improved health, improved education and improved environment. It was clear that there was an added benefit to the community, as a number of village leaders mentioned the unity that the group working together brought to the village.

## Water projects



**Water flowing at the new tap!**

I was able to visit some of the rain water harvesting projects that have been completed in the schools and also saw one of the tanks being built at the school in Ihomasaa. The highlight, however, had to be seeing a water point the day it was connected up to the gravity fed system and turned on. Meeting some of the villagers and hearing the difference that that will make in their daily life, was really nice. One of the villagers told me that on a normal day, in the rainy season, when water was available in the local river, it would take him 40 minutes to collect a bucket of water. With a smile on his face, he told me that with the addition of this tap, it will now take 3 minutes! Plus, the water from the tap is clean.

# Mwanza, Tanzania



**From left to right: Amisadai, Louisa, Rachel and Tim Monger**

The final part of my visit to Tanzania was in Mwanza with the Monger family. Again an excellent opportunity to spend quality time with the family.

This being a new stage in our ministry in Tanzania, it was great to be able to see some of the work already started and talk about potential projects.

## Agricultural project

The most recent project to start, is the Conservation Agricultural Project. There are a number of challenges faced by local farmers and this project aims to assist them in improved farming methods: mulching and composting, to name a couple. The idea is to train a small group of farmers in these methods and then for them to train others.



**The exciting compost heap**

My visit happened shortly after the first training and, on visiting one of the farms, Tim was very pleased to see some of the methods already being used, including a compost heap.

The plan is to have a comparison field planted alongside a field farmed traditionally, to show the benefits of the improved methods.



**Viewing the proposed comparison field**

I also had the chance to meet a number of the people Tim and Rachel are working with or hope to work alongside in the future. It is always good to be able to put faces to names.

## Women's group



I attended one of the ladies' groups that Rachel spoke at. It was encouraging to hear the work they are doing in their community.

## Hospitality

Hospitality is a big part of Tanzanian culture and it was very humbling. I never went to any village where hospitality was not a part of the visit. They are incredibly generous people. I was given 5 live chickens, a stove, a kanga (local fabric), a stool, a T-shirt, multiple meals and many cups of tea.



### Unexpected gifts!

One of the highlights of the whole trip had to be spending time with all the children (Danielle, Hudson, Nate, Ben, Sam, Bethany, Amisadai and Louisa) and getting to know them better. I had lots of fun playing games, reading, sight-seeing and generally enjoying their company. They also play a big part in our ministry.



We are glad for the DfID funding for the stoves project.

### Dates for your diary

**Board Meeting:** 21 November 2014

**EIUK meeting with AGM:**

21 February 2015

## Colin Adams



It is with great sadness that we inform you that Colin Adams passed away on Monday 27 October 2014. Colin was the EI Country Representative in

Uganda over the turn of the millennium. He is remembered fondly by many of EI's alumni who worked with him.

## EI Handmade Cards

David and Jenny Bendell, with the help of some faithful friends, have been making some beautiful greeting cards, using recycled cards. Over the years they have raised more than £16 000 for EI in this way! We are really thankful for their labour of love.

They are now wanting to hand the creating and selling of the cards over to someone new. **Do you feel that you would like to succeed them?** Please contact Linda at the office (e-mail [linda.fitzmaurice@eiuk.org.uk](mailto:linda.fitzmaurice@eiuk.org.uk) or telephone 01243 931094) if you are interested in taking on this valuable service and she'll put you in contact with David and Jenny to find out the details of what this entails.

## Membership!

It is that time of the year again! We are renewing membership for the 2014-15 year from October. We have included a membership form and hope that you will take up this offer to renew your membership or to become a member for the first time! Membership fees have not changed for 10 years and will be the same again this year. The due date for renewals is the end of November 2014.