



# Shyira Trust

Registered Charity Number 1118979

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## Newsletter, August 2010

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Since the Trust's AGM in June, there have been some developments in our link with the people of Shyira, and the purpose of this brief newsletter is to tell you about them.

### **School links.**

A series of five assemblies for students in the age-range 11-16 was presented at Range High School. This was a joint Trust/St. Luke's effort, and was well received by the young people. The theme of the seminars was "The Life of Children in Rwanda."

Range High School is linked with Groupe Scolaire in Shyira, and Rwanda is now a core part of the school's year 8 geography curriculum. We shall continue to support the school in that work as they require.

In early July a talk was given to lower 6th students about visiting Rwanda. The students were then offered the opportunity for two to be partially funded to visit Shyira and Groupe Scolaire at half term next February. Twenty four expressed an interest in going. They were then asked to submit a written application and six did so. The applications were considered by two staff and two of your trustees and two students were selected with two reserves.

Selecting two students from the six was difficult—the standard of the applications was very high. To ensure fairness the applications as presented to the panel were anonymous. A lot is said against young people but those of us who have been involved with Range have been very impressed by those we have met.

Following the Mundo Afrika Choir performance there is potential for developing closer links with Formby High.

### **Visit to Shyira.**

A visit to Shyira is planned for February 2011. It will be around the school half term so that the two Range High students can be in the party. We have also had a request from a lady in Essex who wants to join us so that she is able to see how the gifts she has been sending by freight and container have been used. With ten St. Luke's members having expressed an interest in going there is potentially a

large group, but Pastor Anthony assures us that he has sufficient accommodation available.

### **Money Transfers.**

£14,550 was recently transferred to Shyira. It is to be used as in the table.

Parish ministry	£675
Children's centre	£6160
Child sponsorship	£5880
Banana leaf cards	£200
Children's work	£25
Child headed families	£360
Alternative gifts	£950
For CEFOPS	£170
Coffee project	£130

Both Bishop Augustin and Pastor Anthony have sent notes of thanks, and messages of love and greeting to everyone here.

That brings the total sent through the church and trust since 2002 to an amazing £155,580. A big difference has been made to the lives of people in and around Shyira, but there is still more to do. Present needs are to complete the children's centre and extend the maternity hospital. We would also like to continue the replacement of child headed family homes.

Several children have completed their studies at Groupe Scolaire, and we now have an urgent need for more sponsors.

#### Money Transfer, August 2010

### **Global Community Links.**

The Department for International Development with the British Council and UKAid are giving small grants for groups with a linked community overseas to tell about the Millennium Development Goals and how they can impact the lives of people in deprived areas of the world. We are intending to apply for a grant with the intention of bringing people from Shyira to tell their stories. We hope to bring students, teachers and midwives, if we can get them all UK visas.

### **Concert for Rwanda**

We are grateful to the Formby Mafia who are organising a fund raising concert for Shyira. It will take place on Friday 5th November in the Gild Hall. We do realise that is bonfire night, but expect most organised displays to take place on the Saturday. There will also be a comedian, Mickey Finn. We look forward to a good evening of entertainment, so please put the concert in your diary.

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The Shyira Trust is a charity established by St. Luke's church, Formby, to manage the financial aspects of its link with Shyira, Rwanda. The Trust has a membership that is open to any person or organisation for an annual fee of £5.00. The fees pay for the running of the charity so that all donations can be used for the work of the charity.

For membership application forms please contact Mrs. Jackie Smith, 01704 831730, or visit the Trust's website—<http://www.shyiratrust.org.uk/>