



## Sponsored Events

Are you taking part in a sporting event or challenge next year? Why not get sponsored to raise money for Changing Futures? We can provide support with promotion, sponsorship forms and a BT MyDonate page.

## Did you know?

We collect Foreign currency and any British small change.

A Happy New Year to all our supporters. Last year was another very successful year thanks to all your support. We look forward to making a difference in Swaziland again in 2019.

### Phephile Sefundza

We agreed to support Phephile. Phephile is a talented young woman who had the opportunity to go to University to study medical laboratory services and we agreed to pay her rent, food, books, clothes and basic toiletries. When she heard that we were supporting her we received this email:

*"I do not know where to start, but the financial support is making a big difference in my life. I have never been this happy at school in my whole life; going to school and learning with a relaxed mind and knowing that everything is in control. I am doing very well at school, getting good marks in all my modules.*

*After writing first tests in all the modules, I was able to get 79.3% average with the highest mark of 94% in Introduction to Medical Laboratory Sciences. I'll starting my exams on the 19th of November. They have shifted the exams to earlier because we are supposed to be doing practicals from 04 to 14 December. I am spending sleepless nights studying for my exams as I go for group discussions during the day. I am looking forward to getting more good marks on my exams.*

## Regular Donations

If you do feel you are able to contribute a regular amount on a standing order please let us know. £5/month goes a long way in Swaziland.

## Receiving this Newsletter

If you do not want to receive this newsletter and other updates on Changing Futures and want to be removed from our email distribution list please email us at:

[info@changingfutures.org.uk](mailto:info@changingfutures.org.uk)

If you know someone who would like to be receive the updates please let us know. Please feel free to forward it.

## Contact Us

[www.changingfutures.org.uk](http://www.changingfutures.org.uk)

[steve@changingfutures.org.uk](mailto:steve@changingfutures.org.uk)

*I am so thankful to you, may God richly bless you all. Have a good day."*

I will be meeting Phephile when we go to Swaziland in February.

## Forbes Reef Primary School

The classrooms and toilets are now complete and ready for the new school year that starts shortly. Below are pictures of the completed classrooms and toilets.



## Vocational Skills Training

We have also been using our carpentry trainees from our training scheme with KI to repair the desks in the school. Below is a picture of one of the students repairing desks at Forbes Reef Primary School.



## Hydrocephaly Group

After the successful project with the mother and baby HIV group we are now supporting a similar project through The Rocking Horse Project in children with hydrocephalus

If diagnosed early enough at a clinic or hospital children are sent to Mbabane Government Hospital for an operation to insert a shunt. The problems come when the mother or caregiver does not spot or is not educated in the early warning signs that the tube is perhaps blocked or that the child has outgrown the tube and needs a larger one inserted.

Also, it is an art in itself to pick these children up as their heads are so top heavy. The aim of the project is to bring the caregivers together to discuss between themselves how to best care for their child as well as for the surgeon, physiotherapist and dietician to assist these families with advice and support. It will also help in the reduction of the stigma of having such a child.

We applied for and received a grant of £1,500 from The Ashworth Charitable Trust to fund this project.

## Community Project - Salakutjielwa

We agreed to support this very poor community in Salakutjelwa with Mbabane Rotary Club (who will part fund this project) to provide a large water container to store clean water and to build a toilet block, kitchen and classroom. Work is already underway and the local community is providing labour to prepare the ground and dig the foundations. The toilet pit has been dug and the foundations are already in place.



## Trip to Swaziland

As mentioned in the last newsletter we are visiting Swaziland in February and can take an additional two large cases. We want to fill them with donations. The sort of things we can take are:

- Pens, pencils, crayons and felt tips
- Toys including cuddly toys
- Baby and children's clothes

If you do have any donations please let me know so that I can arrange to collect them.

## Fundraising

Sarah Chambers organized a Christmas wreath making session in December. This raised almost £300.

Following publication of an article in our local newsletter the Henley Standard got in touch with us and ran a full-page article on the first 10 years of Changing Futures. There is an on-line version that can be found at the following link:

<https://www.henleystandard.co.uk/news/goring/133092/charity-marks-decade-supporting-disadvantaged-children-in-africa.html>

If you can help us raise money or are willing to make a regular donation please let us know. Every penny raised goes directly to support the education of children and young adults and alleviate poverty in Swaziland.