



## 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.

Here is our latest newsletter with updates on Forbes Reef Primary School, the mother and baby club and our project with Young Heroes that aims to give young people a trade.

On May 24th new legislation comes in to place in the EU around data protection (General Data Protection Legislation) and all companies and charities are required to comply with this legislation. I hold on behalf of Changing Futures your name and email within contact groups that are within Microsoft Outlook. We use this information to email you this newsletter and any other updates on the Charity. If you want us to delete your contact details and not receive this information in the future, please let us know.

## Forbes Reef Primary School

Forbes Reef Primary School looked like a new school at the beginning of the first term this year because of the renovation and repainting of the buildings. The refurbishment of the school is so outstanding that it attracted some tourists from Europe while passing by the school. They drove into the school and took pictures of it. It was a surprise for the teachers because tourists' buses frequently pass by the school on their way to the Kruger Park in South Africa without stopping at the school.

The Headmistress has instructed the children to ensure that walls remain clean. Anyone seen doing anything that could make the walls dirty is reported to her office. One day a grade 2 pupil came to the office to report children

## 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

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who had been leaning on the wall. The culprits came to the office and apologized for their wrongdoing!



When we work with a new school it is imperative that we ensure that we get commitment from the school, school council and community so that when the work is finished they will look after and maintain the buildings in the future. Before commencing work on the new toilet block and classrooms at the school we met with the local community and got their full commitment. As part of this commitment they agreed to dig the toilet pits. Both men and women from the local community helped and the building of the new toilets are well on the way.



## Impact of our work with schools

In recent years we have supported three main primary schools; Nkhamba, Forbes Reef and Hwane. The end of year exams took place in December for the oldest children to allow them to go on to secondary education. Forbes Reef and Nkhamba received a 100% pass rate whereas Hwane received a 92% pass rate. These are excellent results and demonstrate that the support we are able to provide to the schools is having a positive impact on the performance of the children. The results at Forbes Reef have resulted in more local parents wanting to send their children to the school.

## Mother and Baby Club

The Mother and Baby Club goes from strength to strength. At the last meeting 18 mothers and their babies attended. The paediatrician was able to inform the group that all members of the club that started in the beginning had suppressed viral loads. (A suppressed viral load is when antiretroviral therapy (ART) reduces a person's viral load (HIV RNA) to an undetectable level. Viral suppression does not mean a person is cured; HIV still remains in the body. If ART is discontinued, the person's viral load will likely return to a detectable level).

A speaker came from an organization called Mothers2Mothers ([www.m2m.org/where-we-work/swaziland](http://www.m2m.org/where-we-work/swaziland)). They educated the mothers on the importance of exclusive breast feeding for the first 6 months and also encouraged mothers to become Mentor Mothers in their own communities. Sadly only two mothers accepted the offer to become Mentor Mothers as the others said they were too afraid to disclose their HIV status in their communities.

The mothers were also taught the basics of making jewelry and earrings from easy to find materials to allow them to earn an income and feed their children.

## Skills Training

In 2016 we worked with Young Heroes in Swaziland to train 20 young people in skills such as carpentry, motor mechanics, agriculture and electrical wiring. They completed the course in 2017 and in order to graduate they had to gain practical experience. Almost all students managed to get places of attachment where they were able to apply what they had learnt and got a chance to hone their skills. They are now looking forward to receiving their certificates in April 2018 which will enable them to apply for jobs. We received some very positive comments from many of the students who are very grateful for the opportunities we have given them. Some examples are as follows:

- Thokozani Ntjalintjali who did electrical wiring told us that the work he is already getting enables him now to buy food and other necessities.

- Mbuso Jele who did metal work has been employed repairing desks and chairs and has been receiving E1,200/month (£80) which has allowed him to support his family.
- Siphosenkhosi Magagula who trained as a motor mechanic has been working at a garage for 6 months. Although he is not paid they give him E20/day (just over £1) for food.

In 2017 we enrolled another 19 young people and it is hoped they will all graduate in 2019.

## Fundraising

The recent 6 Nations Sweepstake organized by Liz and Brian Davies raised £500. We had 78 entries but as many let their hearts rule their heads most did not come close to predicting all 15 correctly (particularly England fans!). In fact, 10 people did predict 13 correct results – a very good outcome in this year's topsy turvy championship. However, there was one stand out winner – Richard Ball from Streatley – who managed to get 14 results right and has, I understand, already been contacted by the well loved Eddie Jones to provide an objective review of England's performance this year.