



The Catherine Bullen Foundation

Making a difference in rural Namibia

NEWSLETTER

No: 42

Winter 2020

Usually our winter newsletter would be full of reports of our second yearly visit to Namibia from mid-September to the end of November. But unfortunately due to the Covid19 global pandemic we were not able to undertake it this year. So apologies for a slimmer newsletter this time.

While the UK has been reporting daily cases in their thousands and deaths in the hundreds, Namibia through good governance and its geographical profile has managed to record only 17,276 cases since the beginning of March with 164 deaths as of 16 December. However, cases are now on the rise again, and there is fear of a second wave which has led to a tightening up of restrictions. Since the beginning of September, the Government has been encouraging tourists to return with the opening of borders with Ethiopian Airlines and Eurowings now flying into Windhoek. Recently, the UK Foreign Office added Namibia to its travel list.



September 2020 – Ethiopian Airlines resume flights to Namibia

As we leave 2020 and go in to 2021, the great news is that a vaccine has arrived and hopefully by the middle of next year we would have been immunised. This has given us confidence to start planning our return to Namibia in the latter part of the year.

The Foundation's Projects

The multi-purpose hall – Omuhaturua Primary School and Hostel, Otjimanangobe

Construction work is on-going although progress has been slow this year. We have now received an up to date time schedule and completion is planned for May 2021.

Borehole for Eiseb Primary School and Hostel

There is nothing further to report on this. Funding is in place and the borehole will be drilled in the latter part of 2021.

4x4 ambulance for Otjimanangombe Primary Healthcare Clinic

It is hoped this will be fully funded by the time we place the order in May 2021 for delivery in September 2021. We are currently lobbying the Namibian Ministry of Health to make a provision to fund two drivers to be based at the clinic in their forthcoming budget.

Good Hope Primary School

While we were in Namibia last March and staying in Otjimanangombe in the Omaheke region, we were again able to visit Good Hope Primary School in the village of Okovimburu. This enabled us to inspect the two large industrial electrical cooking pots in the hostel kitchen that had been funded by St Mary's Senior School for Girls in Colchester. During our visit we noted that a lot of the hostel children were not wearing school uniforms due to them having to be washed in the middle of the week, leaving them without a uniform for half the week. On hearing this St Mary's decided that they would like to raise funds to buy the children a second uniform. The total cost of the uniforms is £5,680.

Since the donation of the pots, the school has continued fundraising and the Foundation recently received a cheque for £1,757.98 towards the uniforms. Ben Russell from the school advised that one of their fundraising events, launched at the beginning of this month was the 'Non-Uniform for Uniform' event with students and parents - so the girls and staff were all in non-uniform last week (with a Christmassy theme each day). Through the generosity of the parents and children, this event has so far raised £2,240 with donations through the Foundation's virginmoneygiving.com portal on its website. A huge thank you from the Foundation.



The pupils of Good Hope Primary School at the annual prize giving event.

Fundraising

As we have previously mentioned all physical fundraising came to a halt in the latter part of March this year due to the pandemic and this has been the case for the rest of the year.

However, all has not been lost, and we have some lovely supporters who have come up with various ways to raise funds for the Foundation.

Face Masks

Long time friends and supporters of the Foundation, Yvonne Cooper and Kazzie Denton have been busy making face masks to raise funds. Our grateful thanks to both of them for this.

Calendars

Amongst our fellow travelling group when we were being repatriated from Namibia last March, was Paul Gascioigne who was so impressed with the Foundation's work that he is selling his 2021 calendar featuring Namibian birds and animals to raise funds for our Namibian projects. A big thank you to Paul for this.

Christmas Raffle

Linda's lovely friends and colleagues in the Pre-assessment clinic in Colchester General Hospital organised a fundraising Christmas raffle for the Foundation and this raised £367. It is intended, that the money raised will be used to provide a food bank for TB and HIV patients in the clinic at Otjimanangombe and Catherine's clinic at Oshivelo. Well done.

Mersea Rotary Club

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, the Club has to put its international aid on a more formal basis by partnering the Foundation with its work in Namibia and more specifically by assisting to fund the ambulance project. Recently the club applied for a District Grant and was successful in gaining £1,000 towards the ambulance. During this Christmas period they have been taking Santa's sleigh around Mersea, but due to Covid19, it is not possible to collect door to door. So they are inviting the general public to donate on <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/santasleigh>. The money raised is being split between the Mersea Island Community Association, the NSPCC and the Foundation.

SANTA'S SLEIGH
WEDNESDAY 9th DECEMBER

SHEARES CRESCENT | BROOMHILLS ROAD | PRINCE ALBERT ROAD | YORICK ROAD | HIGH STREET | MERSEA AVENUE | ST. PETERS ROAD | VICTORY ROAD | ROSEBANK ROAD | FIRS ROAD | HIGH STREET | MELROSE ROAD | YORICK AVENUE | LOWER KINGSLAND ROAD

5:30pm. Santa and his Sleigh will commence the tour at Sheares Crescent, turning into Broomhills Road towards Prince Albert Road.

He will then travel the entire length of Yorick Road, before turning right into the High Street.

After passing Tesco Express, the Sleigh will enter Mersea Avenue, turning left into St. Peters Road, then into Victory Road and Rosebank Road.

Santa will then enter Firs Road, travelling towards the High Street.

To finish, the Sleigh will travel along Melrose Road, Yorick Avenue and Yorick Road.

At approximately 7:30pm Santa will finish his tour at lower Kingsland Road.

Rotary Club of Mersea Island

STILL SUPPORTING GOOD CAUSES THIS CHRISTMAS

Supporting the Foundation with your purchases

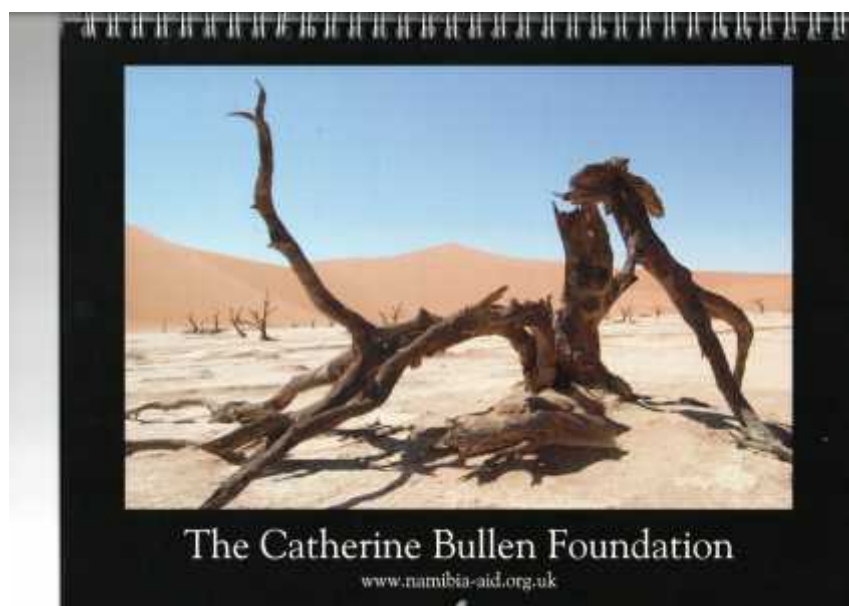


AmazonSmile is a simple, automatic way for anyone shopping online to support the Foundation at no extra cost. When Amazon customers select the Foundation and shop at smile.amazon.co.uk, they will find the exact same prices, selection and shopping experience, but with the added bonus that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% on the net purchase price of eligible purchases to the Foundation. We invite you to support the Foundation in this way and please share this information with your friends if they use Amazon.

Donating in lieu of sending Christmas Cards

Nowadays, some people have made the decision not to send Christmas cards, but to make a donation to a charity instead. If this is what you intend to do this year, we would be grateful if you would consider donating to the Foundation.

Foundation Items for sale



Our 2021 calendar is now available featuring animals and birds of Namibia and costs £10 plus packing and postage. Delivery within a 10 mile radius of Mersea is free.

We have the full range of this unique San Jewellery for sale and can be found on our website at www.namibia-aid.org.uk.

Regular giving

Some of our donors have made a more formal arrangement by setting up a standing order to donate a regular monthly or yearly sum. If you would like to support us in this way, please use the above banking details so that you can set it up.

Presentations

The Foundation is pleased to give presentations to groups and clubs on its work during the day or evenings. Obviously this is now on hold due to the Covid19 situation.

Forthcoming Events

With the start of the vaccination programme, we feel optimistic that we can return to physical fund raising in 2021, starting with shop collections. Whether we will be able to attend events with our china smashing stall depends on the organisers feeling if it is safe to go ahead with their particular event. We have not received any notifications yet that these will be happening. With regards to our Indian Lunch at Titash and the Seafood Supper at the Company, we will just have to wait and see how things progress as the year goes on. We may be able to have the Indian lunch in the summer depending on what restrictions are in place.

Easter Saturday 3 April 2021

Shop collection – West Mersea Co-op

Saturday 15 May 2021

Shop collection – West Mersea Tesco

Saturday 5 June 2021

Shop collection – Halstead Co-op

Saturday 12 June 2021

Shop collection – Felixstowe Co-op

Saturday 24 July 2021

Shop collection – Manningtree Co-op

Saturday 14 August 2021

Shop collection – Brightlingsea Co-op

Saturday 28 August 2021

Shop collection – Woodbridge Co-op

Saturday 4 September 2021

Shop collection – Stanway Co-op

Make a difference!

The Catherine Bullen Foundation is working with local communities to help build and nurture a new life for the people in rural Namibia. Because we are a small charity, our overheads are small and are personally covered by the trustees, so that every single penny donated to us goes to the intended project, with spending strictly monitored by the UK trustees and their ngo partner in Namibia. All visits to Namibia are self-financed and no charitable funds are used for this purpose. Please help us make a difference by making a donation, either on line at www.namibia-aid.org.uk or sending it to the address below.

How to contact us

By Email: info@namibia-aid.org.uk

By Post: The Catherine Bullen Foundation
Pear Tree Cottage
15 Colchester Road
West Mersea
Colchester
Essex
CO5 8RS
United Kingdom

By phone: 01206 383368 (inside UK) or 0044 1206 383368 (from outside UK)

Mobile: 07771 630928
07733 140748



*Roger and Linda Bullen
and the
Catherine Bullen Foundation
wish you a happy Xmas and prosperous New Year*

Donation/Gift Aid Declaration

(The Catherine Bullen Foundation – Registered Charity No. 1110516)

Details of donor

Title..... Forename(s).....Surname.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Post Code.....

Signature.....

Date.....

I want the charity to treat

*the enclosed donation of £..... as a Gift Aid donation

*the donation(s) of £..... which I made on/...../..... as (a) Gift Aid donation(s)

**delete as appropriate*

**You must pay an amount of Income and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the appropriate tax year.
(currently 25p for each £1 you give).**