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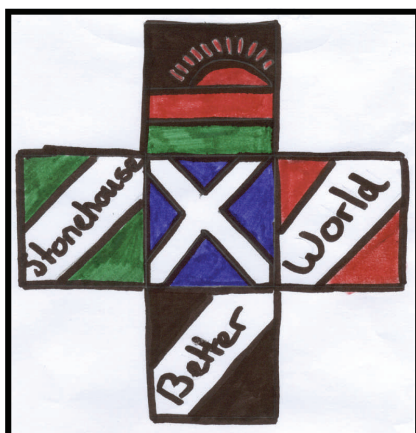
STONEHOUSE BETTER WORLD

Happy New Year

At the start of 2009 the Stonehouse Better World Group extend to everyone in Stonehouse our good wishes for the year ahead. We hope that the sense of community within our village will help see us through what is likely to be a difficult year for many.

Groups Within Stonehouse

This may be an appropriate time to look back at how the



group came into being, what has been achieved, and how SBW relates to other groups within the village.

Initially the **Stonehouse Brighter Village** was formed. This group was formed with the aim of improving the appearance of the village by planting bulbs and encouraging the community to care for their surroundings. **Stonehouse Development Trust** grew from this effort. It has an office open to all next to the Co-op. It also secured funding for a Development Officer. Jeff Frew who can be found in the Trust Office which is

open Tues./Wed. 9.00a.m.-5.00p.m. Thurs. 9.00 a.m.-4.00p.m.

Stonehouse Better World group was formed in 2006.

It's aim was to develop a community group which responds to Global responsibility. To date it has raised nearly £30,000

It was felt that money raised would have more impact if targeted in a specific area.

Mulanje Mission Complex in Malawi was chosen because of there was a link with Blantyre and David Livingston.

Projects which have been undertaken include:-

£6,000 to build a teacher's house for Mulanje Secondary School.

£2,000 to extend Mulanje Primary School's chicken project

£2,122 to repair water pumps and provide maize and rocket stoves

£500 to provide benches and tables for a Nursery school feeding station.

£3,000 to install a new community bore hole at Lilongwe Model School

It is also proposed to make and annual commitment of £2,000 towards sponsoring beds at Mulanje Mission Hospital.

Stonehouse Community Supporting Mulanje

We are grateful for regular support from.

Site Services

37 Academy Street Larkhall ML9 2BJ

The Cross Garage

Trongate, Stonehouse ML9 3LH

Strutherhill Autos

Strutherhill Industrial Estate, Larkhall

Bruce Dempster

Ayr Road Garage, Burnhead road, Larkhall ML9 2EJ

We would like also to express grateful thanks to the many individuals who give their support.



Our most recent appeal was the Christmas "Kangaroo" Appeal in support of the premature baby unit in Mulanje Mission Hospital. This raised £1,156.63 thanks to staff at Stonehouse and Newfield Primaries. The community and congregation at St. Ninian's and the collection at the Christmas Eve midnight service. Stonehouse Better World has also recently become part of the Scotland Malawi Partnership Group and look forward to working with them to develop projects in Malawi.



Although the main focus of support has been Mulanje Mission SBW also seek to meet needs locally and has given £140 to Susan Whyte's Story Stars Writing Group and £1,000 to purchase a new ice making machine for Ward 62 Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Very recently £500 has been given towards the Community Garden project in King Street initiated by Stonehouse Brighter Village and Development Trust. We look forward to work starting on this project and when completed a garden area which can be enjoyed by the whole community.

Future Projects

In the coming year SBW hope to continue supporting the "Sponsor a Bed" scheme at Mulanje Mission Hospital on an annual basis. Regular funding will help the Hospital to plan ahead. We also hope to support the development of a Fish Farm or other sustainable project for the village of Lilongwe. In doing so we hope to develop our relationship with the community in Mulanje and look forward to working with the new Pastor in Mulanje Mission Church. Rev. Gertrude Kapuma.

Find Out More

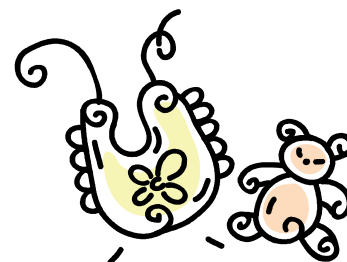
You might like to find out more about the groups at work in Stonehouse by visiting the following web sites.



Stonehouse-Development-Trust.co.uk
 st.ninians-stonehouse.org.uk
 scotland-malawipartnership.org
 It will also now be possible to keep in contact with Mulanje Mission Hospital who with the support of the English Reformed Church in Amsterdam now have a web site and good internet access
 www.mmh.mw

Further to the Christmas Appeal

Our Christmas Appeal has provided support for the premature baby unit at Mulanje Mission Hospital. In this area of work at Mulanje nurses provide almost all the of the antenatal care, deliver the vast majority of babies and care for the new mothers and babies after birth. Dr. Mary Sue Makin has worked in Mulanje for ten years and is the only trained gynecologist in the Mulanje district of 550,000 people. Her role is to offer expert guidance and offer specialist services. Clinical officers last year performed 273 caesarean sections. However, last year within the Hospital there were 2,615 deliveries with 65 sets of twins and 2 sets of triplets. A credit to all those involved.



Thank you to all who have given support.

Using the words of the Scotland Malawi Partnership. In this issue we have seen communities **Working Together to make a Difference.**

For further information on Stonehouse Better World Group. Contact Margaret McMeekin Tel 01698 793489 01698 793489