

Cynthia's report on her visit to Irundu 4th October to 12th November 2010

The St Matia Malumba Health Centre III

On Nov 1st the OPD, Pharmacy, Maternity Dept and Children's ward was moved into the newly renovated building. The converted church hall is now the male and female ward. Numbers are increasing in leaps and bounds so 3 new staff members have been appointed – there are now 9 medical staff, a driver, 2 cleaners and a cook. The health centre is part of a Safe Delivery for Mothers Scheme being run by an NGO - they pay for transport from the village, delivery charges and transfer to Kamuli hospital if that is necessary. It has an outreach programme for immunisation and has just been part of a countrywide Polio Vaccine Programme. They are working towards full mobile service and have been invited to send disabled children for operations to a special camp being held for 2 weeks in Kamuli sometime in 2011. They have connected the generator to the health centre as a back up to the solar power and an overhead water supply from a borehole means they won't run out of water.

Micro-credit

10 start-up and 17 business loans and 1 individual loan were made. There are currently 112 loans to farmers, fishermen and small traders. The core funding for the loans has been provided by generous Worth parishioners.

Friendship House/Visits

The house is also connected to the generator and overhead water supply so hopefully they will not run out of water either – a few dull/wet days and the solar fails. Visits are planned for this year including Father Peter to plan a visit by boys from the school in 2012. Hopefully when the disabled children have their operations some physios will return to help with their after care. When she was there last Cynthia went on the parish pilgrimage to the shrine of St Matia Malumba, one of the Ugandan martyrs and the Bishop came for the Parish Day. Lunch was hosted in the house for the Bishop, parish council, etc. and the house is used in our absence when Fr Stephen or the Sisters have lots of visitors.

Vocational School

5 Hairdressing students have completed their one year course and they all have jobs.

A magnificent carpentry workshop has been built with funds donated by a Worth parishioner.

Pen-Pals – Pictures from our parish children were taken out and some pictures done by the children in the Sisters' nursery/primary school brought back.

'Tin Money' has been sufficient to make 180 benches providing sufficient seating and writing surfaces for some 1000 children

15 Stations of Cross have been made, each one of them from donations by Worth parishioners

