

# *The BARK FOUNDATION*

*(Registered Charity Number:1129762)*

*In support of HOTPEC ORPHANAGE, BUEA, CAMEROON*

*President: Reverend Edward Sakwe*

**JUNE 2017**

Dear Friends

We have delayed sending out news for some time because there has been serious political unrest in Cameroon. It is prudent that we only mention brief details. The French speaking government have certain requirements of the English speaking sector of Cameroon, some of which have caused us considerable concern. As we understand:

The Law Courts in the English speaking sector are required to be conducted in French – so the English speaking judiciary went on strike early this year.

Teaching posts in the English speaking sector are to first be offered to French sector teachers – so the teachers went on strike. All schools in the English speaking sector have been closed since January/February and all the English speaking children have received no education at all during this period. (The fees we have paid will be carried fwd).

The internet to the English speaking sector has been blocked since January, causing immeasurable problems for banking and business – it was restored mid-May.

We can do nothing about the political situation except hope and pray that there will soon be some agreement and reconciliation. We are so sad for this beautiful country and the suffering people.

We have been reassured by telephone that the children and carers at HOTPEC remain safe. The carers have encouraged the older children to study on their own so that they do not get too far behind. Because local people have been carefully going about only their necessary daily business, many who would normally visit the orphanage with donations of food have not been going. Matron Beatrice informed us that this had put their food budget under severe strain and they were short of food. We sent £2000 – all the funds we had in hand – to help with food and medicines. (Our support is always on the basis of their most urgent need and as the schools are closed they need less money for fuel).

The Management are hoping to raise morale by launching a new enterprise – CHICKENS!

There is an abandoned half-shell of a building on the site. The idea is that it can be used as the base for a very large poultry house. Chickens would provide eggs, with hopefully a surplus that could be sold towards 'keeping' costs. It is also in the plan to use the project to teach some of the young people poultry husbandry so that they will have employment skills. This is 'early days', lots of planning needs to be done and advice to be sought, but they are very excited. We have asked for full details and when they are available we will keep you informed.

**EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY – please support us if you can:**

**SATURDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE, 7.30 pm, Birstall Methodist Church, Wanlip Lane, Birstall, LE4 4JS**

**A SUPER CONCERT FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT – ADMISSION FREE**

**LOUGHBOROUGH MALE VOICE CHOIR and LA GUITARELLE CHOIR (from Belgium)**

It is the wish of both choirs that a retiring collection be held in support of our work, and a Raffle will be held, the 1<sup>st</sup> prize of which will be a beautiful limited edition print photo of Bradgate Park 'Altar Stones' worth £180.

***(Please find attached a poster and invitation leaflet if you would like to publicise the event for us).***

**SATURDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> AND SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE – JEWELLERY STALL AT BRADGATE PARK FAIR**

**TRUSTEES:**

*Website: [thebarkfoundation.org](http://thebarkfoundation.org)*

*Chairman*

*David Bark*

*48 Queensgate Drive, Birstall*

*Leicester LE4 3JR*

Email:[bark\\_foundation@btinternet.com](mailto:bark_foundation@btinternet.com) *Secretary*

*Charles Hilton*

*11 Beechfield Avenue, Birstall*

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*Joy Bark*

*48 Queensgate Drive, Birstall*

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**SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 10.00 – 12.00, COFFEE SHOP as usual at Birstall Methodist Church**

**SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> AND SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 12.00-4.30 pm – LEICESTER'S VINTAGE FESTIVAL  
PUMPING STATION, ABBEY PARK, LEICESTER – JEWELLERY ETC. STALL**

YOU CAN NOW FIND US ON 'FACEBOOK'! Go to: [www.thebarkfoundation.org](http://www.thebarkfoundation.org) and click on the link.

## **DONATIONS:**

**If you wish to make a donation to help in our quest to improve the lives of the children of our HOTPEC family please either send it direct to our home address or through 'CHARITY CHECKOUT', on line.**

Please see our website where you can click for on-line donations (we are aware that the website needs updating and hope to renew it a.s.a.p.). Some supporters choose to make their own arrangements directly from their own bank account to ours via a monthly direct debit (please just ask for our bank account details).

Modest donations made on a regular basis are greatly appreciated, surely and steadily augmenting our funds. **'Direct a Coffee to HOTPEC' – a cup of coffee in town costs around £2** – could you help us by persuading your friends to make a regular donation of this amount?

If you are a UK taxpayer and would like us to claim 'GIFT AID' on your donation this can be done through 'Charity Checkout' or by including a note with the following statement and information if sending directly to us:

Please treat all gifts of money that I make today and in the future as GIFT AID donations.

Title.....Initials.....Surname.....Home address.....

POSTCODE..... SIGNED..... Date.....

Best wishes - Joy, David, Charles and Edward

### **TRUSTEES:**

#### **Chairman**

**David Bark**

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Email:[bark\\_foundation@btinternet.com](mailto:bark_foundation@btinternet.com) **Secretary**

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