

# HEBRON CHRISTIAN COLLEGE MISSION TO AFRICA

## July 2009



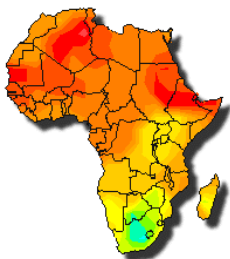
On 3<sup>rd</sup> July, the Hebron Christian College "Mission to Africa" got underway. 20 Year 11 - 12 secondary students, the School Principal and 4 parents boarded a plane for the 19 hour trip to Tanzania, Africa. Twenty-four days later, the team returned to Auckland with amazing stories to tell of God's blessing and miracles.

### WHY A MISSION?

Hebron Christian College is a private Christian school in Mt. Albert, Auckland, that teaches its students to live a genuine and committed Christian life, sharing the Gospel and serving the needs of others and not living a self-centred, materialistic life. Since 1994, senior students have visited Third World countries to serve the poor, the neglected and disabled in slums, orphanages, refugee camps, rubbish dumps and city streets. Five previous missions, mostly to the Philippines, have been very successful and profitable in bringing relief and comfort to those touched by the students' involvement, performances and acts of love and care.



### WHY AFRICA?



A chance meeting in 2003 with a Tanzanian woman, Josephine Shoo, turned our eyes towards the nation of Tanzania and eventually confirmed the direction in which the next mission should go...Africa! Consequently a very successful mission took

place in Africa in July 2005 and July 2007 and a very strong link developed with Tanzania since then.

### NEW LIFE FOUNDATION ORPHANAGE

Josephine and her husband Glorious are a Christian couple who have dedicated their lives to saving the orphans of Tanzania. They



started an orphanage 6 years ago in their home and now have about 400 children in their care. They also rescue prostitutes and unwed pregnant teenage girls and give them life skills training, offer career paths for unemployed men and have recently opened the "Fountain of Zoe" a newly-built hospital and home for abandoned and neglected babies, some of whom have HIV/Aids.

### PREPARATION

Taking 20 people halfway around the world for 3 weeks required detailed planning and preparation:



#### Performance Training

The drama, dances, puppets, Maori cultural items, testimonies, National Anthem dance, etc. all had to be taught at a 5-day Boot Camp and on Thursday after-school and Saturday/Sunday practices.

#### Fundraising

Each student had to raise \$4,700 to cover their air tickets, accommodation, transport, giving, uniform and incidentals. School fundraising included mufti days, fruit and vegetable sales, Entertainment Book sales, the Geographathon, car washes, etc.

#### Uniforms

Three different uniforms were produced for each team member. They were very much needed in the hot and dusty conditions of Africa.

#### Vaccinations

Each team member had to be vaccinated against hepatitis, typhoid, yellow fever, polio and malaria.

### PRE-MISSION PERFORMANCES

Several church performances were organised before the mission for three reasons:

1. To develop performing confidence

2. To inform the church community of the mission
3. To raise funds through offerings and donations.

These performances also helped many people to understand more about Christian schooling.

## MISSION ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

### 1. New Life Foundation Orphanage



The visit to the New Life Foundation school and orphanage was the highlight of the trip for many. The 220+ orphans were thrilled to see us and they loved the interaction they had with the Hebron students who played games with them, taught them songs, and generally showed them Christian love and care.



### 2. "Fountain of Zoe" Baby Orphanage



The visit to the baby department of the New Life Foundation was eagerly anticipated, especially by the girls

& Mums on the team. There were many "coos" and "oohs" as the once-abandoned and neglected babies were cuddled by the Hebron team.

### 3. "Fountain of Joy" Girls Programme

Our team visited the Fountain of Joy where they spent time encouraging the teenage "at-risk" girls who are being trained in



### 4. Practical Help



The team adults and students "delivered a cup of cold water in Jesus' name" by offering to install roofing on the newly built secondary classrooms.

### 5. Food Parcels to the Needy



Each team visited a number of impoverished families in the Moshi area and spent time talking to the adults and the children. Some of their houses were just stick and mud huts with little or no furniture, an open fire for cooking and no electricity or running water.

### 6. Gospel Outreaches

The team performed frequently in churches, schools and city carparks throughout the mission. Students danced to the New Zealand National Anthem, dramatised two choreographed Christian songs, performed Maori culture waiatas and hakas, and ran puppet shows for children.



The 25-minute mime “The Tale of Two Kingdoms” presented the whole Gospel message in drama and music and powerfully affected all audiences, both young and old who watched it. An altar call asking adults and children to come forward to dedicate their lives to



God always followed each performance and the response was amazing with a total of at least 700 people responding.

## 7. Prayer for Healing



The team offered to pray for the sick after each performance and rejoiced exceedingly when sick and injured people testified to God’s healing power. A woman, blind in both eyes, claimed her full sight had returned, a young crippled woman started running around the stage and a girl sick from birth claimed she was totally healed.

## 8. School Programmes

The team visited 5 government schools, primary and secondary, in the wider Moshi area. The staff and students told the children about life in New Zealand and performed and taught them Maori hakas, songs and simple games. In one school,



the majority of children indicated they would be serious followers of the Lord Jesus Christ. The visits were greatly appreciated by the Tanzanian teachers and students.

## 9. Church Performances

Besides supporting two growing rural churches in the crusades, the team performed in three church meetings in Tanzania.



On one Sunday, half the team travelled to a Masai Church in the outbacks of Moshi. A number of the congregation still wore traditional Masai dress and worship music was only an animal skin drum.



## MISSION OUTCOMES AND BLESSINGS



By all accounts, the Mission to Tanzania was most successful & profitable. The blessings were:

- ✓ All students wanting to attend the mission were able to raise the funds and go.
- ✓ 25 team members travelled halfway around the world in planes, buses and vans in complete safety.
- ✓ There was no sickness (Malaria, etc.) and there were no injuries.
- ✓ The 5 staff and 20 students worked and lived in wonderful unity – the students' behaviour was outstanding and a credit to themselves, their families, the school, our nation and above all, the Lord.
- ✓ The team was warmly welcomed and housed in comfortable and clean accommodation in Tanzania and in transit in Dubai and Kenya.
- ✓ Large crowds flocked to team performances and generously applauded their items.
- ✓ At least 400+ adults and children responded to the Gospel message and voluntarily chose to become Christians.
- ✓ The orphans at the Fountain of Hope orphanage loved the visits of our teams – their lives were richly blessed with our presence.
- ✓ Over \$11,000 was given to the orphanage from fundraising in New Zealand.
- ✓ Many poor families in Moshi were visited by the teams and given food parcels.
- ✓ An recently constructed orphanage secondary classroom block was roofed by a mission adult and team members
- ✓ Many children and adults testified to God's healing power when students and staff prayed for the sick and infirm.
- ✓ The involvement of the Hebron team in three 3 & 4-night crusades in the Moshi, Himo and Sanya Juu area substantially boosted the presence of two small churches that hosted the meetings with over 300 children and adults coming forward for salvation and prayer.
- ✓ Performances at 3 Tanzanian Government schools and noticeable appreciation by the staff and children
- ✓ The visit to a Juvenile Prison housing teenage boys resulted in ministry to those in need and 2 boys and the "jailer" gave their lives to God.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND THANKS

We thank the following people and groups for helping to make the Mission to Africa 2009 a great success:

**Hebron staff:** Mr Geoff Matthews (Mission Director) & Mr Vic Burrows (pre-mission training)

**Accompanying Parents:** Mr Pesa Wilson, Mr Rodd Jacques, Mrs Debbie Gill and Mrs Kay Lawson

**New Life Foundation** – Mr & Mrs Glorious & Josephine Shoo, fellow teachers, guest house staff & drivers

**Cassie Hart**, a NZ teacher working at the NLF, for organising our accommodation, timetable, sightseeing, etc.

**Dubai Evangelical Christian Church** for accommodating us in air-conditioned rooms while the outside temperature was 43° !!

**John Mamea-Wilson**, our wonderful Kiwi Dubai host  
**House of Travel** Melanie Allan & colleagues for air travel bookings

**Peter Clerk of Mt.Smart Pharmacy** – donated medical supplies.

**Ruth Scott** for drama training and the teaching of the New Zealand National Anthem in sign language

**Craig Scott** for teaching the students illusions which were used as "crowd pullers" and for teaching points.

**Cathy Gillies** for training in puppetry

**Rahu & Aroha Vause** for creating our unique "Hebron" haka and songs and weekly training

**Sarah Rauch** for Wednesday lunchtime dance tuition

**Bob Edwards (father of 2005 mission student)** for donation of Kumf uniform shoes for female mission members

**John Peachey** for loan of portable Anchor sound system

**Hebron Staff, Parents & Students** – fundraising, support & prayer

**Year 8, 9 & 10 students** for donated soft toys

**Argyle Manufacturing Ltd** for supply of new clothing for the orphanage

**Warehouse Stationery (New Lynn)** for classroom posters donated to NLF school

**The Lord Almighty** from whom all blessings come.

## CONTINUED SUPPORT

If you would like to continue to support the work of the Hebron Mission Team in Africa you can do any of the following:



- Donations can still be made to the New Life Orphanage through the school
- Sponsor a New Life Foundation child via the New Life Foundation (NZ) Trust. Visit [www.nlf.org.nz](http://www.nlf.org.nz)

Day-today accounts of the mission trip can be found on the school website at:

<http://www.hebron.ac.nz/overseasmission/2009/>