



**NCCV**

# Namibian Children's Community Vision

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM OPUWO - NAMIBIA September 2012

Dear friends and supporters,  
 I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter – It's the first of what will be a monthly paper filled with news from NCCV in Opuwo. I wanted to say thank you for your support, to let you know about the work we're doing here and to give you an insight into the day to day lives of our children and families in Katatura. Please share this with your friends.  
 Warm regards, Diane Mills

## Let the games begin...

Two of Lusiana's boys immediately run off to start a bout of 'animal wrestling'.

Thanks to Dave's mum and to V and A for your wonderful donations.



## Presents from the UK for our Katatura Children

It doesn't take much to bring a smile to the faces of the children of Katatura. The small soft animals that were donated by a friend of NCCV will be loved and cherished. Our children here don't have many brightly coloured, exciting things in their lives. Their day to day

concerns are more likely to be centred around whether there's going to be enough food for the day. Childhood is a serious thing here in Opuwo!

Some of the toys were donated during my recent visit to the UK and others were donated on my return to Namibia – posted out and donated by a volunteer working here.

I always wish the people who donate things could see the excitement on the children's faces when I take the gifts over to Katatura – the reward seems all mine. I get to see the joy and excitement.





isn't in the family budget!!

Future plans for the **NCCV** Children's Centre include, in conjunction with the Ministry of Health, life skills classes about personal hygiene, nutrition and staying healthy.

Our long-term plans also include vocational skills for the women of Katatura – and a bigger gardening project.

The vocational skills will at least enable the women and older girls to make or grow things to generate some income.

Monica (volunteer community advisor) and I do try to take food over for those really in need, especially those whose children are sick. We do our best to provide the children with things that are both nice and nutritious.



Our kids really enjoy oranges!

## Poor living conditions in Katatura

Those of you who check out our website [www.nccv.org.uk](http://www.nccv.org.uk) or follow us on Facebook will know about the lives of the children in Katatura and the conditions they live in.

The families are big, usually 10-12 children, living in a confined space in very unsanitary conditions. They have no toilets and the water point is shared by all – including the pigs. In this picture you can see a

pig wallowing in front of the main water tap in Katatura.

Diseases that have almost disappeared in Europe are commonplace here. eg., cholera and TB. If one child gets sick you can guarantee it's soon passed quickly around siblings and friends.

There's no free Health Service here... every hospital and Doctors visit has to be paid for – as do prescriptions. The children don't get enough food most days – health care



enough food most days – health care



First you play – then you eat!

One sack of oranges (approx. 40 fruit) costs N\$25.00. That's about £2.20 – 40 oranges make a lot of children smile in Katatura. What can you buy for £2.20 in the UK now?

## Food parcel for a Katatura family

Spinach grown in our NCCV garden, tinned fish, sack of maize meal, oil, salt, sugar, onions, tea, packet soup to flavour the maize meal.



## Building Plans

As many of you will already know, Tate Hipandurua, the Headman of Katatura, do-nated the plot of land to NCCV for the building of the Children's Centre. He specifically asked for part of the centre to be a kindergarten. The land is fenced off and we are just waiting to begin the building.

100% of the money presently donated to NCCV goes into the building fund. We all work on a voluntary basis. Our target before we can begin the building is £9000.00. We have reached £4000.00 so still have over half way to go.



If you want to help with fund raising or have fund raising ideas you can contact Jo or Catherine. You will find their details at the end of this news letter.

Tate Hipandurua and Diane standing on the NCCV plot where the Children's Centre will be built.

## Welcome to Catherine Atkins – our new NCCV recruit!



Persistence paid off last month when Catherine Atkins agreed to join us as administrator/fund-raiser in the UK. We've been trying to get her onboard for a while but until recently she was unable to commit any time to the project.

Catherine and I have been friends since our arrival in Namibia in 2003. We met up again in

Nottingham during my recent visit to the UK and this time she didn't need any persuading – she has more time now and is eager to help.

An ex VSO volunteer in Namibia (as is Stuart our Creative man and myself) Catherine is a valuable addition to our small team. She spent two years as a Doctor in the north of Namibia and is now a GP in Swansea. In addition to the fund-raising etc., her medical expertise will be invaluable to us.

### The NCCV team now consists of:



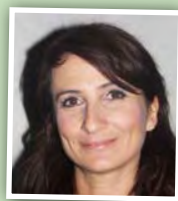
**Diane Mills**  
Coordinator –  
based in Opuwo



**Monica Limao**  
Volunteer  
Community  
Advisor – living in  
Katatura



**Tate  
Hipandurua**  
Community  
Headman and  
Chief Advisor



**Jo Stimpson**  
UK Coordinator &  
fundraiser



**Stuart Lee**  
Creative Design  
& IT



**Catherine  
Atkins**  
UK Administrator  
& Fundraiser

All of our team work on a voluntary basis.

### Angus and Erwin raise money for NCCV



Over a couple of months during the summer Talk Talk in Cheltenham managed to raise £580. Lots of fun had by all as teams travelled across the Cotswolds for fancy dress Scavenger hunt! Details are on our **Facebook** page and **website** – total amount raised will be in next months issue of this newsletter.



**On 12 August 2011** Angus Brummet took part in the **Virgin London** triathlon. Angus completed the Triathlon in 1 hour and 46 minutes. Angus writes "The event went well for me I did it in 1 Hour 46 minutes which is better than my target of 2 hours, it would have been quicker but for getting and repairing a puncture on the bike."  
Angus also raised in total £150 for **NCCV** (including a generous personal donation).



**30 July 2011** saw **Erwin Jonker**, a **VSO** volunteer based in Opuwo, taking part in the gruelling 35km bike race around the dangerous tracks of Spitzkoppe Mountain here in the Namib Desert. You can imagine the temperature!! Erwin came 4<sup>th</sup> out of 200 contestants!

Well done to everyone who has raised money for our cause. Details, as ever, on **Facebook** and the **website**.

At **GSK** Jo Stimpson had a creative team meeting. To avoid stifling any creative ideas she had a 'yes but' box. Anytime anyone said 'yes but' to an idea – they had to make a contribution to NCCV! They managed to raise **£42!!!**

Can you do something to raise money for **NCCV**. Call or email either Jo or Catherine – they can help you with ideas of activities and how to get sponsors.

## Our aims

The purpose of the charity is to establish and maintain a children's centre in the northern area of Kunene Region, Namibia. More specifically, Kaokoland, Opuwo Town and the surrounding areas.

It is hoped the centre will provide care for the orphans and vulnerable children of the area and in some cases give support to their families. The aim is to provide food, shelter when necessary, clothes, school fees (again when necessary), and to support access to medical care.

## Our long term goals

- The establishment of a kindergarten
- The use of local people to teach vocational skills to the children of the area
- To establish a garden as early as possible to grow nutritional food. Fruit and vegetables are scarce in this area and the children, even those who have access to fairly regular meals, eat a diet that is very low in nutritional value. Children are often sick and would benefit greatly from a wider variety of fresh grown food – this is of paramount importance for the children who are HIV positive
- Vocational skills training for the local women.

## Our needs

- Financial donations toward our building fund
- Children's clothes
- Help with posting children's clothes and toys already donated.
- Travellers from the UK to Namibia—are you or anyone you know travelling out to Namibia? We are looking for people who could bring some of the things that have been donated for our children.

## Donations

### You can make a monthly donation or a one off payment

This can easily be done by setting up a standing order from your bank to NCCV with the following details: Sort code: **40-17-10**, Account number: **82221004** or using these bank details to send a balance transfer from your bank. If you want us to know who you are please put your reference on transaction and your bank can do all this for you. If you would prefer to send cheques, please make them payable to **NCCV** and address them **NCCV, 47 Courtenay Street, Cheltenham, GL50 4LR.**

**£5 a month can pay school and hostel fees for one child**

**£10 a month can feed a child**

**£20 a month can buy staple food for one family**

**£30 a month can buy food and ensure medical care for one family**

### You can also sponsor a child

Please contact Diane for more details.

## Big thank you's to:

### All NCCV friends and supporters.

- **Rob's mum - the £100 donation bought basic medical supplies + soap, facecloths and other toiletries.**
- **Dave C. - Food and clothes donated.**

- **Dave's mum donated soft toys which brought much enjoyment to the kids.**
- **SB who visited Katatura and brought a much needed food donation to the value of N\$500.**
- **CA - £250**

- **ABB - £150**
- **JS - £300**
- **V & A - toy donation.**
- **AND a special thank you to all NCCV friends who donate monthly.**

**Finally**, many children in the area are home based carers for sick parents or siblings – child headed families are commonplace. The main aim of this charity is to work alongside Namibian organisations to support the children, to help prolong their lives, relieve some of their burden and give them back even a small part of their childhood.

### UK

**Jo Stimpson**

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**Catherine Atkins**

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## Contact us

### Namibia

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