

We are in the business of: "changing lives"

It often hits me how desperate life here can be. Many people live life on the edge; and just the smallest wind that blows can tip them over. You ask yourself "how can I make a difference in these people's lives?" Often we want the quick fix. The problem with quick fixes is that you have a fix for today, but no fix for tomorrow.

Mechanics For Africa is a slow fix. It takes two years of full commitment from our students and from us, to get the results of a brighter future. But what does the future hold for them? After all, the big question is "can they find work, and are they able to support and provide for their families?"

We thought we'd take some time to see where are they now, and what are they up to:

As of September 2010: we have had 103 graduates:

- **27** of them are self employed, which means they have their own small businesses. Some have more established workshops and others operate with the toolbox that they get after they graduate.
- **8** of them work in other fields, some are related to the mechanical engineering field, others are involved in computers or administration work.
- **10** of them are unemployed.
- **4** we could not get hold of, so don't know if they are working or not.
- And **54** of them are in full mechanics work. Most are on or around the Copperbelt, but at least 5 of them work now in South Africa as qualified mechanics.

Hillary Kabwe (graduated 2009) is working on a car at his work place.



**86% are in employment
Supporting their families.**



Justine Sememba (graduated 2007) is working on a gearbox at Voyagers Car Rental, Ndola.

Total: 14% unemployed; **86%** are in employment and supporting their families and extended families. Not a bad rate, we feel, and in fact, although we sometimes feel that *only* 103 have graduated, in Africa you know the ripple effect; that for every person who works, usually ten people benefit from it in one way or another. $10 \times 103 =$ approx 1,030 people benefitting.

"The more easily you get your wealth, the sooner you will lose it. The harder it is to earn, the more you will have."

Proverbs 13 v 11. (Good News Bible)

Much to give thanks for:

- One of our staff, Mrs. Rodah Sanyikosa, was very ill for 4 weeks. She since made an amazing recovery. We have much to give thanks for as she is a key player in running the college: she cooks 60 lunches each day for all our staff and students.
- Someone gave generously to the continuing work on MFA Guest House, we are now at roof level and were able to build trusses for the roof. (Guest house still not completed.)
- For a safe and refreshing visit that the Watts had in summer to Israel and England.

Please pray for:

- Our students who are getting ready for taking their City & Guilds exams in December.
- The situation with the mines has been difficult for the past month. Many of the Zambians and ex-pats have lost their jobs and are having to relocate to other towns, many to other countries. Please pray for God's peace in this time of uncertainty for them, and the way it will effect our town, Ndola.

Have you heard or maybe even seen

MFA's new promotional video??

If not get on our website and follow the link to YouTube. It is a great opportunity to see what MFA is all about and what has been achieved in the past 10 years. If you can't get it from the website, contact Charlie and he will send you a DVD.



As for the Watts

In July we went to Israel for my sister's wedding. It was a great break spending time with our families. The wedding was a truly Jewish experience, five hundred guests attending.

We then continued our journey to the UK and spent nearly four weeks there. It was good to catch up with our families and friends, and we had good and encouraging times with the MFA board of trustees.

We are now back in Zambia with the boys back to school. Samuel is in grade 1 and Joel is in prep 3. They both love swimming, and at the weekends riding on their 50cc motorbike.

Charlie is turning the corner this month and we are having a small party with his friends. He is still enjoying strolling on the golf course and playing touch rugby once a week.

I (Sharonne) am currently training for a short race in Lusaka (10Km) which I really enjoy (the training, not sure I will enjoy the race). (STOP PRESS: Race successfully completed and enjoyed, CW.)

For more about the Watts you can always check us out on our website, or email us and ask!

From L to R, top: Charlie, Shika (Mor's husband) Mor (my sister) and me.
Bottom: Joel and Samuel.

Charlie & Sharonne Watt
P.O. Box 250016 Ndola Zambia
Tel: 00 260 (0)212 681124 Mobile:
00 260 (0)966 878381

charlie@mfazambia.com or sharonne@mfazambia.com

www.mfazambia.com

Mechanics for Africa is a UK-registered charity (No. 1086333).

Patron: Lady Virginia Bottomley.

Mechanics for Africa (Zambia) is a Zambian registered charitable trust.

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter electronically please send an email to:
sharonne@mfazambia.com