



BREADLINE AFRICA

WE CAN BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY



April News 2009

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Edna's Column

Hello friend of Breadline Africa

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2008 was an amazing year and I'd like to offer you all **greetings and every blessing for 2009**. Once again, I cannot tell you how much I appreciate **your letters**, cards, messages and prayers.

As always, I have so many stories to tell you about all our projects and the many other plans we're hatching, but this time round, one of our Trustees wanted a chance to speak to you directly. So here, instead of a letter from me, is her letter.

With

Edna

Edna
Project Officer

love,

Titus

P.S. I'd love to hear from you. You can email me at <mailto:edna@breadlineafrica.org.za>

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The Children Have a Ball

Well, the pictures say it all! Over 800 children from desperately poor homes had an unforgettable day of fun, sun, sand and smiles, all thanks to you. Each child got a gift from Father Christmas and then there was all the excitement of a jumping castle before everyone tucked into a good lunch. They were thrilled - and I am so **grateful YOU made this possible**. Find out more about their [fun day at the beach](#).



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The Trustees Make Dough

While they used their time in South Africa to think hard about Breadline Africa's future and to make plans and create strategies for the challenging road ahead, our Trustees also got stuck in (quite literally!) to our [Blogger Bake-Off](#). The Worldwide Blogger Bake-Off is our online campaign to march boldly into the world of the Internet. All around the globe, people reach out through blog networks that can touch hundreds... thousands... if not millions of people. We wanted to get the debate about poverty in Africa going on these networks, so we came up with the idea of baking bread (a basic necessity), swapping recipes and ultimately **"giving dough" to raise funds for food projects** - emergency parcels, soup kitchens, community veggie gardens, and more. If you'd like to join in the fun, [read more here...](#)



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The Parachuting Dog to the Rescue:

I'm sure you remember the **special bequest** by Captain Moore and his family in memory of his nephew, John McCreath, and how it came from a trust in John's name called the **"Parachuting Dog"**. Last year I told you about the story of how John, aged five, when asked by his grandfather what he wanted to be when he grew up, announced: "I want to be a parachuting dog, granddad!" We are happy to be able to report to all of you, and

especially those who loved John, that the **Parachuting Dog Container is finished** and ready to roll out to where it's needed most! It's particularly precious to us all and the unusual name is the cherry on top. Don't forget that if you'd like more information about leaving a bequest to Breadline Africa, you can just [drop me a line in confidence](#) and I'll answer all your questions.

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Can You Help Us With a "Can"?

And this reminds me - at Breadline Africa we can never have too many containers. The need for these versatile, **low-cost "cans" that "can"** turn into soup kitchens, classrooms, clinics, libraries, nursery-schools just keeps growing, so please consider [making a contribution](#) to the special container piggy-bank - I'd be so grateful!



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Louise Seligman, Chair of Breadline Africa UK, writes:

Amidst gale-force winds and driving rain, in November twelve Trustees (eight from the UK and two each from Ireland and Holland) arrived in Cape Town to evaluate the work of Breadline Africa, and help make future plans.

We were struck by the cheerfulness and will to succeed we saw at the projects we visited. It is always humbling to see people who have very little showing such willingness to help their fellows.

We were briefed by local experts on present and future needs in Southern Africa. Given the harrowing crisis in Zimbabwe, we agreed to designate extra funds for projects there, in addition to the projects we already support.

We were very concerned about the world economic crisis, as it's the poorest who will suffer the most. So far, our loyal donors have managed to keep contributing generously - bless you all.

By the end of the week, we felt confident that there was a plan in place for offering as much assistance as possible to the needy, especially children and young people. We reaffirmed our commitment to the work of Breadline Africa, and offered up a heartfelt prayer of thanks to our donors - without whom we could achieve nothing.

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Closing Note

"Everywhere I go, I see very much the same thing. I see the same compassion for people who live half a world away. I see the same concern about events beyond these borders. And, increasingly, I see the same conviction that we can and we must join together to stop the scourge of AIDS and poverty." - Bono

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