

Gimme Shelter

February 2009

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Little fish, big pond: Our tilapia fingerlings now have fingerlings of their own.



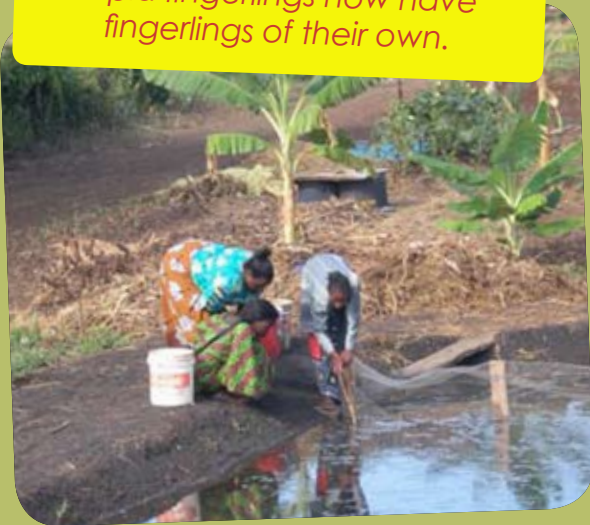
Check mate!

Our **chekechea** is going from strength to strength, with **57 children** now enrolled in two groups. After only **four weeks** of classes and no previous education, the majority of children are now **able to recognise** their **written name** and choose their own name tag. This small **milestone** creates much joy every morning and our house mamas are thrilled to be **teaching the children** and watching their **progress**.



Goats to go

Kesho Leo has **welcomed** its first livestock into the purpose-built **livestock shed**. We are so proud of this excellent home for our **goats, pigs and cows**, which was built by our own **fw-trained builders**. So far, we have **three female goats** and Samwel is searching for the **perfect billy goat** to pair them up with so they can start **breeding**. Again, we **thank Planet Wheeler** for funding our farm and permaculture systems.



Fingerlings on the pulse

fw's aquaculture project has taken off in a big way. Our **300 tilapia fingerlings** (young fish) must really love their new environment, because they have already **hatched** their own fingerlings, much to the astonishment of our **Kesho Leo labourers**. Our Tanzanian **farm manager Samwel** is particularly thrilled, because this early success will **help him educate** our staff and labourers on having their **own fish ponds** in each family boma. Ponds in the **bomas** would ensure a constant **source of protein** for each family in the village. You can hardly wipe the **grins** from the faces of our workers; they never would have **imagined** they could have **fish** swimming about in their **own backyards**.

what's going on...

Swahili for beginners

It's been a bit **quiet** at the **volunteer village** the past couple of weeks as **Helen**, our volunteer teacher, and **Karen**, our volunteer nurse, have been **away** at a two-week live-in **Swahili course**. It's all part of us ensuring that we are **working with our community** in the best way we can by learning the **local language**.

A well-earned break

Our local **manager Mudi** has finally gone on some well-earned **annual leave** and will be taking his wife and child to see their **extended family** in other parts of Tanzania. We are happy that Mudi and his family are taking this **time out to recharge**. When they return in early March it will be **all systems go** to get Kesho Leo ready for them and our house mamas to **move in**.

Reach out

Our social work **outreach project** is thriving under the care of our Tanzanian **social work manager Lucas**, volunteer **Loretta**, project manager **Kelsey** and our **trainee Chancellor**. We have been trekking through the surrounding villages **reconnecting** with the **mamas in need** who didn't make it as Kesho Leo house mamas, visiting the local **HIV/AIDS support group**, as well as **networking** with local agencies and **identifying orphans** in the area who may move to Kesho Leo.

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Go the people power!

We recently met a **stellar Aussie, Jo-Anne Stutley**, who **supports tailoring** businesses in Tanzania. She has been looking for a **project to support** and one visit to Kesho Leo persuaded her to **assist us!** The next week Jo-Anne delivered **beautiful fabric** to our sewing room and since then our mamas have been **flat out** making **hundreds of small purses** for her to take back to Australia to sell, with **100% profits** coming back to **fws**. Keep an eye on our **website** for more details.

On the afternoon before our **electrician Robert Price** returned to Australia, he **switched on the lights** at Kesho Leo and was met with **cheers, whistles** and even **dancing**. Now we just need **funding** to keep the lights on with **solar power**. Anyone?

A big welcome to **Adam Hillier, a carpenter from England**, who's come to help our local crew put the **finishing touches** on Kesho Leo. Adam's first job is finishing off the beautiful **sisal railings and stairs**.

This month's Tick-Offs

FACEBOOK: Have you become our friend yet?

FREE-RANGE HENS: Our chooks are laying eggs like there's no tomorrow (and in some strange places, such as the sawdust bins by the composting toilets!).

ON SCHEDULE: We're on track to have house mamas and kids in Kesho Leo by April; now we really need to find the final 29 members of our elite Final Founding Fifty to ensure we have final fit-out costs covered.

Member profile

Name: Ruth Warren

Suburb: Como, WA

Day job: Operations Manager

How did you find out about fws?

I first heard about **fws** through friends who are involved in the project.

Why did you become a fws member?

I have always believed in supporting organisations that help people in developing nations. I love the fact that **fws** not only aims to provide better lives for orphans in developing nations, but also promotes environmentally friendly practices which are so important.

What does it mean to you?

The hard work and dedication of the team at **fws** means that all money raised is used effectively to build the Kesho Leo children's village in Tanzania. It's really heart-warming to know that my monetary contributions are actually helping to make a difference to kids out there.



Ruth Warren is a member and monthly contributor of **fws**.



Our house mamas sew up a storm (above) and the boys light up (below).



contact us...

If you have any quezzies, please don't hesitate to contact Gimme Shelter acting editor, Kristie Kellahan, at kristiekellahan@yahoo.com. Meantime...

Ways to donate (well, you asked...)

JOIN the "Final Founding Fifty" – 50 people to each donate \$2000 (tax deductible). Visit www.foodwatershelter.org.au/finalfoundingfifty.aspx for details.

DONATE money to go towards purchasing solar panels, which can be purchased locally in Tanzania. Visit www.foodwatershelter.org.au/donate.aspx for details.

CONTRIBUTE to "Let's Kit Out Kesho". Visit www.foodwatershelter.org.au/letskitoutkesho.aspx for details.

BECOME a "Monthly Donor". Visit www.foodwatershelter.org.au/donate.aspx for details.

REGISTER your interest for families sponsorship at Kesho Leo. Email sponsorship@foodwatershelter.org.au

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What! You've had enough? We're sorry to hear that, but go to <http://www.foodwatershelter.org.au/unsubscribe.aspx> and enter your email address.