

Berengaria Rotarians helping local and international communities

Local Rotarians from Limassol Berengaria-Cosmopolitan Club are seeing one of their latest international fundraising projects bring benefits to a remote African community in Malawi, thanks to the pump and borehole which has been provided following their €6,000 donation.

With the project now complete, supplying fresh drinking water to one of its orphan centres has improved the quality of life for the local community.

The Club took on the project following several visits to the area by Chris Clapham, a member of the Limassol Berengaria Rotary Club.

He was so impressed with the Friends of Mulanje Orphans (FOMO) project that his suggestion to help the organisation was taken on board by the Limassol club as one of their international community projects.

FOMO aims to provide and enhance the health, education, food and security, offer basic human needs and develop the potential of all the needy and orphaned children of Malawi.

It was founded by Mary Woodworth, who together with her husband Keith, established the organisation in 2000. From its early days, FOMO has since developed to now care for more



than 5,000 orphaned children through a network of 13 centres, covering about 85 villages in Mulanje district of Malawi.

The local community is

also going to benefit from the fund-raising activities of the Limassol Berengaria Rotarians.

Its major annual project for 2012 is to provide a much needed Ford



Transit 350LWB Mini-bus for PASYKAF (Cypriot Association of Cancer Patients and Friends).

At a cost of €50,000, PASYKAF will be able to use the mini-bus to ferry cancer patients between the towns and villages of Paphos, Limassol and Larnaca to the specialist Oncology treatment centre in Nicosia.

The efforts of the Club have already seen much of the money raised "We have already raised almost €40,000, but of course more donations are always welcome" said Roula Dagfal, Membership Ambassador for the Club.

The Rotarians are also committed to providing assistance to smaller local projects, one of which is the Famagusta Kayak Club which will shortly receive a new kayak thanks to a considerable contribution from the rotary club.

The FKC is currently practising to qualify for the London Olympic Games, and offers children from less affluent families, as well as its regular members, an opportunity to participate in national and international competitions.

The club is currently preparing for the 4th Environmental Fair competition which it hosts every year between English speaking schools in the city.

A popular event, this will be held on March 4,

and give pupils the opportunity to create projects on improving the environment and health which are judged by top environmental and business leaders.

The Rotary Club of Limassol Berengaria-Cosmopolitan is one of 19 Rotary Clubs in Cyprus. According to Club President, Tim Drohan, "It's a mini United Nations with a mix of nationalities and cultures from countries around the globe, including: Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, England, Germany, Ireland, Lebanon, Montenegro, Netherlands, Russia, Scotland, Serbia, South Africa, Syria, Ukraine and the USA." Meetings are conducted in English. For more information visit www.rotary-cyprus.org/berengaria



This fresh water borehole was provided by the
**Rotary Club of
Limassol Berengaria
Cosmopolitan**
for the friends of Mulanje Orphans
2010

LIMASSOL NOTES

Please keep your bodily fluids to yourself...

Warning, this column is not pleasant.

Bodily fluids. I know they are a necessary perfunctory part of all our lives. Nobody is exempt from the imbibing, absorbing, secreting, flushing or sweating out of

our body's libations, however well bred, moneyed, intentioned. But really, there are limits...

And because I'm a caring, sharing kind of person, and this is still the season of goodwill (just), I thought I might commu-

nicate the following tale this week in the hope my request will be heard by a few more people. Or failing that, just be careful who you stand next to, park your car close to or keep the company of,

at any social function. Shopping during Christmas week I spotted the fastest moving supermarket queue and approached the cashier with my basket of goodies. As I glanced around at the next line, checking that my queue was indeed moving along nicely, I had to do a double take, and then another, and another. It was difficult to believe but there he was, this middle aged man, stacking food items onto the belt with his hands, meanwhile a stack of 4 slices of white bread were half hanging out of his rather distended mouth. Yes, it sounds bizarre. It definitely looked it. But what's worse is as he struggled to pack his goodies onto the runner, the bread just dangling, haphazardly, a steady stream of saliva literally dribbled down his chin onto his clothes and floor, leaving what I assume was a generous pool of bile on the ceramic tiles for the next customer to negotiate their way around. Visions

of teething, dribbling babies sprang to mind (although they obviously can't help themselves); seems this grown man couldn't either. Several days later, I was parked at a red traffic light on the seafront, singing merrily and chatting to my son in the passenger seat; something caught my eye and as I turned towards the movement on the pavement, a teenager half fell, half tripped out of the kiosk doorway into the direction of my car. He chose that very same moment to spit up a huge globule of spit and toss it straight onto my car door. All I can say (in this column) is I'm so grateful my car windows were shut, since frankly, my son would have copped it on the cheek. Thanks a lot young 'man'. Lovely.

Then just last week, as I sat in a pub close to a table of revellers still in a festive mood, someone in the party sneezed having just

stuffed her mouth with nuts. You can imagine the outcome. I was happy not to have been downwind of her table. Thing is, I remember being brought up to cover my mouth and nose with a hanky when sneezing. Or at least angle the projectile outpourings away from people. Maybe rules have changed since then? But not on the pitch it would appear. As I looked around at the pub filled with happy punters and the various plasma screen televisions showing a selection of festive football matches, it seemed to me that whichever game I caught sight of showed a player chasing a ball then stopping and 'gobbing up'. And bang on cue, the camera always seems to capture the moment. Nobody else seems to flinch. Maybe I'm missing something? I mean, I'm all for sharing (when invited) but please, otherwise, just keep your bodily fluids to yourself?



By **Andrianna Philippou**