

Visit
of
**Manchester & Cambridge
Friends**
to
Congo Yearly Meeting
February/March 2008

Uvira Friends' Peace Centre (FPC)



The Friends Peace Centre (FPC) in Uvira, largely financed by three contributions by the Cambridge Area Meeting over recent years, but yet to be finished

Uvira FPC church building



The unfinished **Church** building adjacent to the FPC

Sewing workshop



A women's group at the FPC learn to use six sewing machines as an income generation activity

Literacy classroom



Women also attend **literacy classes** at the FPC

The Abeka mission house



The **CEEACO headquarters** in Abeka - the former home of the first Quaker missionaries in the Congo, Calvin & Twila Coday, who lived here from 1992-1993

Abeka outdoor kitchen



The outdoor **kitchen** area behind the mission house

Makabola road sign



Makabola village, half way between Uvira and Abeka, was the site of a **massacre** of over 700 women and children during the war in 1998, which began in this area. This was just one of many atrocities during the war, but memorialised as a symbol to remember them by.

A Makabola massacre survivor tells her story



An adult **survivor** of the massacre tells the story of how she alone escaped after the Mai Mai rebels burned the house in which she and others had been locked

A Makabola orphan girl writes to Manchester children



One of the orphan girls, badly burned in the massacre, writes a reply to the messages Martin delivered from **children at Manchester** Local Meeting along with friendship bracelets they had made

TCPG road sign in Abeka



The listening rooms and support for orphans at Makabola and elsewhere are active outreach programmes of CEEACO's envisaged **Trauma Clinic and Peace Garden (TCPG)**, to be built on the lake shore at Abeka. Although not yet built, there is already a sign at the main road of Abeka.

Dr Etando Mkoko (right) is the TCPG's volunteer Director

TCPG brick laying in Abeka



Hazel was invited to lay the **first bricks** on the foundations, as a symbol that construction has begun

Theology class



Until that building is ready, theology classes are held at the nearby Women's Forum building, built originally by the Codays and refurbished with funding from an American women's group after it was badly damaged during the war. Pastor Manasseh Kisopa here teaches a class on Quaker history and theology.

Abeka hospital team



Also just down the hill from the mission station is the Abeka **hospital** run by CEEACO.

The hospital staff team here is led by Dr **Etando Mukoko** (3rd from right) and **M'sato Lubungula Dem's** (2nd from right)

Maternity patient



A new mother with her baby in the
maternity ward

Abeka hospital lab



The hospital's **laboratory** can test for HIV among other things

A boy eating his porridge



The feeding programme is funded by occasional small donations from **American Friends**. When there are no funds there is no feeding.

After they had finished eating the read a message to the children of Manchester meeting

Martin planting a seedling



Martin helps to plant the first of the **seedlings** of a new **reforestation** programme.

Many trees were destroyed during the war, and much of the high level of sexual violence in the area occurs when women are forced to search farther into the hills for **firewood**. The new trees will provide firewood nearer to the village, as well as shade, food and other benefits

Women's Yearly Meeting committee



Hazel with members of the **Women's Yearly meeting**, in front of the Abeka field cultivated by widows as an income generating activity

Uvira Meeting for Worship



Pastor Mwenembuka Lusungu,
CEEACO Vice Legal Representative,
delivers a sermon at Uvira Meeting for
Worship on Sunday morning.

The meeting also includes much
singing