



Registered Charity 1107745



# Annual Report

## 2008-9



[www.sethani.org.uk](http://www.sethani.org.uk)

[info@sethani.org.uk](mailto:info@sethani.org.uk)



## Annual Report 2008-9

For Year Ending 31 July 2009

**Sethani UK** is a charitable trust, formed in 2004 in response to the needs seen by members of Winchester Family Church, UK, during several visits to KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, from 2002-04.



### **Background**

Sethani UK works internationally to provide grants to relieve poverty in Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa through our partner, Sethani South Africa.

Sethani SA is a community-based organisation working to empower the community and to relieve poverty in KwaNgcolosi, a semi-rural tribal area of KwaZulu-Natal. The area has poor infrastructure, high unemployment and lacks educational resources. Many of the community have been affected by HIV/Aids leaving children orphaned and living with extended family who are willing to care for them but unable to provide financially.

The majority of the community live in huts, some with access to electricity and water. Education is available for all but schools are entitled to charge fees and children are required to wear uniform and to provide much of their own equipment. This is beyond the means of many families and can result in children not attending school. Members of the community in need of support are referred to Sethani by schools and local community health workers.

### **Partnership**

In our fifth year of operation, we have continued to work in collaboration with our partner organisation, Sethani, South Africa, to identify and provide for those in need. Sethani, South Africa, co-founded by Debbie Wells and Eric Shezi, is registered as a public benefit organisation in South Africa and works with the community in the KwaNgcolosi area of the Valley of 1000 Hills, Kwa-Zulu Natal.

Sethani runs Bongimpilo Creche, providing 70 pre-school places for children in the community and has its own buildings nearby, comprising a Resource Centre with library and computers, hall, meeting rooms and offices.



Over 20 people from the local community are employed in either the Creche or at the Sethani Centre, whose buildings are used for a variety of community activities including computers, counselling, food distribution, choirs and youth clubs.

Whilst donations to Sethani UK were a fraction of previous years, funding carried over from 2007/8 enabled us to continue to support Sethani SA, and total grants since 2004 now exceed £50,000.



### **Income 2008-9**

Our total income of £1636 for 2008-9 included donations of £1554 and bank interest of £83 and was much reduced from previous years. Several factors seem to have affected this, including the recession and the reduction in the interest rate which led to less than half the interest received this year compared with 2007/8. However, generous donations were received from individual donors and Wolverhampton Inner Wheel and the trustees would like to thank these and all our donors for their generosity during a clearly difficult time for fundraising.

As the UK administrative costs have continued to be covered by the trustees, 100% of income has been available for grants.

### **Grants**

Grants totalling £7770 were made to Sethani, South Africa during 2008/9.

Lochinver House School provided us with generous funding which has enabled the purchase of the new wooden hut pictured on the front page. The hut is located in the grounds of the Sethani Centre, providing extra space and enabling more activities to take place simultaneously.

Grants were also given for food parcels which continue to be an essential in a time of rising global food costs, and for food and baby care items for the Sethani Creche. Funds were also provided to help Sethani SA to cover the cost of a baby carer's salary due to a reduction in a grant from another funder. Smaller grants were given for books and IT resources for the Sethani Resource Centre, gardening items, start-up grants, sports equipment and funds to contribute towards running costs of the minibus provided last year.

### **Project updates**

The UK team is in regular contact with Sethani SA and financial reports, updates and photos of the project are sent by the South African team. News is also posted on the website.

### **Future funding**

Discussions with Sethani Project Managers have highlighted the continuing need for funding for school shoes and uniform, sports equipment, crèche and orphan support. All of these items will be featured in the next Gift Catalogue, together with Youth Camps, which have been a very successful addition to Sethani's support for local youth, enabling them to take part in a range of activities and life-skills training geared to their needs. The rising cost of staple food items such as maize and rice has made the provision of emergency food parcels a continuing need and this item will again feature in this year's Gift Catalogue.

We also encourage UK Internet shoppers to support us by purchasing goods via our webshop at [BuyAt/Sethani.com](http://BuyAt/Sethani.com), which results in a percentage of the commission from the sale being passed on to us at no extra cost to the purchaser.

### **Thank you**

To all who've supported us this year, your donations are very much appreciated and make a significant difference in the lives of those in KwaNgcolosi.

**Sethani UK trustees - 2009**

