

## Report of October Meeting

Our visiting speaker, Mrs Iris Quick, gave an interesting and thought provoking talk about the Yatima Orphanage in Tanzania, with which she and her husband have had a personal interest for 3 years. Following a visit which they made to their daughter Juletta, then teaching in Kenya, the Quicks were keen to support the orphanage and its work. In this time, it has grown to accommodate 128 children, all of whom have lost their parents from HIV Aids. Iris showed many photographs of the children, all now looking happy, clean and well cared for, despite originally having lived in poor conditions there. Many children used to share beds, but now all of them have their own bunk beds. Many other facilities have been improved, including water supply and storage, which have enabled the children to have showers, and the use of improved wash basins and toilets. Individual health care is expensive – for example Iris showed a photo of a boy who needed to travel to India for an operation at a cost of £1,000.

Iris reported having had a tremendous response to their fund-raising activities, such as turning unwanted Christmas gifts into water. Members were keen to purchase gifts, cards and preserves from the sales table, and Mary Seward was happy to present Iris with a cheque for £50 from the W.I. Mary Nowell gave the vote of thanks on behalf of us all.

During the business part of the meeting there was a discussion over plans for next year, including the election of committee and officers at next month's AGM. Flower of the Month was Barbara Woodsford's beautiful fuchsia, and the competition for a handmade card, was won jointly by Barbara and Karen Wilmott.

Joan Cudmore / Mary Nowell