

Update – June 2021

“Reading is...one of the greatest acts of civilisation because it takes the free raw material of the mind and builds castles of possibilities.” - Ben Okri (Nigerian novelist and poet)

Library Aid International Inc (LAI), located in Burnie, Tasmania, aims to improve educational outcomes and life opportunities for children by sending used books and educational resources to needy schools in developing countries. We hope this will encourage 'Readers to Become Leaders' in their own communities and countries.

We are excited to report on some activities and achievements. We also share some needs for your consideration.

ACTIVITIES and ACHIEVEMENTS

- The distribution of books, educational resources and computers which arrived in Zimbabwe in May, 2020 continues slowly. COVID movement restrictions; industrial action by teachers, examination logistics as well as reduced staff contributed significantly to delays in issuing the donated materials. Some pictures of the distribution in Zimbabwe are included at the end of this update.
- Our receivables container became full with books and educational materials donated by school and public libraries and the general public. As a consequence, DeBruyn's Transport was not taking donations for us for a time until some of the container could be cleared. If you have book donations to send via DeBruyn's, please check with them or us beforehand.
- We have had to open an extra day each week to cope with the number of incoming books and to clear some space in the receivables container so we can continue to accept donated items.
- Our next (eighth) container is 90% full and should be shipped to Cape Town, South Africa in July to be distributed by local Rotary clubs.
- There have been several opportunities to give presentations about the work of LAI to churches and clubs, with more to come in the near future.

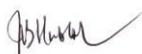
NEEDS

- Continued donations of books, educational items and finances.
- A concern for the purchase of our next (ninth) 20-foot shipping container is that COVID has caused a global shortage of shipping containers as well as a dramatic increase in the cost of shipping and containers. We urgently need a certified seaworthy shipping container to be available at a reasonable price.
- More volunteers who are able to help pack books into boxes and lift the boxes.
- Your encouragement, support, prayer and strengthening thoughts.

Please take a look at our website <https://www.libraryaid.org> and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Library-Aid-International-276684439132338> .

Thank you for your continued interest and support.

Yours sincerely



Ian Hubble (Secretary)



Lobhengula, Lotshe, Lozikeyl and Mzilikazi Primary Schools, Northlea High School, Gwanda and Lupane State Universities



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