

Issue: 3 Winter 2010

HASTE Trustees: chairman Judith Hughes QC, secretary Sarah Warwick, public relations Fiona Ferguson and treasurer Cathie Long Find us online at www.hastecharity.org.uk





This is our third HASTE newsletter and I'm delighted to say we have some great news for our friends and supporters!

Our big news is that we have a Silver Bond place in the London Marathon in April 2011. Our runner will be my niece who is a keen runner and is already in training. We are hoping to raise a very considerable sum of money from this source.

This year has gone well. We completed Chamen Haste School in March this year and I had the privilege of opening it during my visit there in April. We also completed the new school building for Erenyang school and have embarked on the foundatins of Mariama Haste Nursery School in a remote village on the south shore.

We could not do this work without your continuing support help for which we are so grateful. We had a lovely garden party in July. The weather was kind to us. Particular thanks are due to Erica Head who was stalwart in the kitchen. We are now looking forward to the guiz in November. I hope to see you all there, if not before. Sincerely,

Judith x



Edit complete on movie about our work

Our most exciting news at the moment from our work in The Gambia is the soon-to-be released HASTE film. Some of you will remember the 2008 film of our work in Uganda, which was put together by Peter Reynolds and Fiona Ferguson and was a great success.

We decided that we wanted one of our work in The Gambia too, so Judith and Inigo took lots and lots of footage while on a trip to HASTE's projects back in April this year. The volcano that caused such transport issues for everyone over the Easter holidays was actually fortuitous for us as we got to spend extra time at the schools.

It was a great time to make the film as we could show the final steps in the rebuilding of Erenyang School and also the grand opening of Chamen School. our newest project and the only school we have built on the north shore of the River Gambia

We also filmed the transportation of furniture to our schools. These desks and benches are made at a special school for

deaf children, which we love being able to support as it gives disabled children a livelihood for the future and puts money back into local economy.

When we got back to the UK we contacted a film editor Max Downey and he and his brother filmed some supplementary interviews and then went away to do the edit. In September we received the final cut and were delighted! The video, which will be on our website soon, looks so professional and we are sure that everyone will be interested to see all our latest work immortalised on film.

In other Gambian news, we have started work on our 11th school, the Mariama Haste Nursery School, on the south shore of the river. The rainy season has delayed us somewhat but we hope this will be finished by Christmas, certainly in time for the new term in the New Year.

We are now looking around for other suitable projects and hope we can keep up our recent record of building at least one school every year.

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In what he described as a "really exciting trip," our volunteer, Keiron Mapplebeck visited our school in Okwira for a month this year: He says: "I was put up in the family house of Father Michael who was overseeing the building of HASTE's school in the village. He is a local man and his family kindly offered me bed and board.

"Árriving on my own in Uganda was a bit daunting but very exciting. I was struck by the fact that it was a bit like going back in time as the life and equipment and roads in African villages is very basic.

"However, there was a strong community spirit in the village. The roof and windows were all put in by local builders (barefoot!) and it did remind me a bit of life in East London, where most of the builders know other tradesmen and all call on each other when they need a hand.

"I did what I could to assist with the building... I think it was really important for the local community to see English people from HASTE involved in the process.

"I would recommend the experience and would love to go back."

Okwira Nursery School now has a second classroom and there are plans afoot for a third, which will complete this project.

The school also now has a well, so the children have fresh, clean water, too. There are photos of the school before HASTE's work started, courtesy of Cathy Long, online at http://tinyurl.com/3a93ukj. We hope to post some 'after' shots on our website soon.

Knitwear sale!

If you're in the market for hand-knitted baby clothes or blankets, don't go to some overpriced shop...source them from the HASTE Craft Club. We've got the best high-quality hand-knits guaranteed, and all the money goes straight to Africa.

Get them from our chairman, or go online to our Etsy shop at www.etsy.com/shop/HASTEcraft, where you can buy online and get them delivered to your door. Or someone else's - they make great presents!



Supporter Janet Warren's grandchildren Lily and Archie model our HCC knitwear

Lizzie's no couch potato

HASTE is proud to announce that, thanks to a generous donation of £300 and the recommendation of one of our supporters, we have been accepted into a Silver Medal Place for the Virgin London Marathon 2011, which means we'll be allowed to submit a runner every five years.

For our inaugural race, we're pleased to announce that Judith's niece Lizzie Couch, who already has several half marathons under her running-belt, has agreed to run the 26.4 miles for us.

Not only that but Ms Couch has said that if she reaches her target of £10,000 (enough to build two schools) she'll be out in The Gambia for Christmas 2011 building them herself! Thank you Lizzie, we're all massively behind you!

If you'd like to support
Lizzie in her
endevours you can
send donations via
post to the address
below of visit Lizzie's
JustGiving page
(details on our
website)

We will be holding fundraisers next year, which we will be announcing at the quiz. And wannabe corporate sponsors will have the chance to put their logo on Lizzie's running shirt. Please help Lizzie to help HASTE and let's build two more schools.

Training already: Lizzie pounds the streets

I want to help

□ Please accept my donation of £____ □ I am a UK Taxpayer and HASTE can claim back Gift Aid on my donation

If you would like to send a donation to help with our work in Africa simply fill out this form and send it to 38 Canonbury Park South, Islington, London N1 2JH addressed for the attention of our chairman Judith Hughes QC. Please make cheques or postal orders payable to 'HASTE'. Many thanks!