

Friends of Tafo Newsletter SPRING 2008



Friends of Tafo is a UK Charity that facilitates and inspires sustainable development in education, health, employment and infrastructure in the town of Kwahu-Tafo, Ghana, West Africa.

Welcome to the *eleventh* update on our progress. As you will see, our work continues apace, but the money raised so far, thanks to your generosity, is already making a huge difference.

Knowledge Is The Future!

This is the motto chosen by the Tafo Girls Science Club from over 70 suggested by its founders, the girls at Sutton Coldfield Grammar School. The Club meets for classes twice a week and has 250 eager members.



Top Hat
Ghana didn't win the African Cup of Nations – but the team had many supporters in Tafo including the traditional Weapons Chief (below).



The Empire Strikes Black

5!! Our annual fundraising show at Hackney Empire is back on 5th July. You can expect a dazzling showcase of music, dance and comedy as well as some short films of our progress in Tafo. Don't miss it! Put it in your diary now!

FOT is: **Chair:** Humphrey Barclay, Nkosuohene of Kwahu-Tafo; **Secretary:** Georgina Owen; **Treasurer:** Benjamin Ntim; **Trustees:** Crispin Leyser, Jules Leyser, Daisy East, Lizzie Chatterjee, Robert Taylor; **Committee Members:** Colena Abbosh, Dr John Ofori, Peggy Craddock.

Latest News from Tafo

Results!

100% of students passed their final State exams at our rescued Senior High School last year - and half of them achieved University entry grades. We need to raise money for a vital University Bursaries Fund to enable them to go.

Cleanliness is Next

Having reviewed the progress in Education that you enabled us to achieve in Year 1 of the Five Year Plan, the community is now addressing Sanitation, prioritising Public Conveniences and the dredging of the polluted and sometimes flooded river (right).



St Paul's School in London is already building loos for one school, and to our delight planning more, and Samuel Whitbread Community College in Bedfordshire has built a urinal for another.



Raising The Roof

A wonderful collaboration between Tafo's Islamic Community, the brave Channel-swimming teachers at St Paul's School, and London's Eastside Young Leaders Academy, is rebuilding the deprived Islamic Primary School (left) to protect classes from the elements and give the students a future in their own faith.

Twinning

We welcome the continued support and friendship of Maney Hill Primary, Puddletown First and Samuel Whitbread who have paired up with schools in Tafo -- any more out there? – and Gamlingay Village College, King's College Worcester, and Abberley Hall who have all donated hugely valuable textbooks.

L for Leather

Augustine Tenkorang, a leatherwork teacher in Tafo, has received a magnificent container-full of equipment from a benefactor in Germany, and we are seeking funds to start a training workshop to benefit the disabled and unemployed.

Wheelies

Tafo was extremely fortunate to receive a visit from Village Bicycle Project which offers half-price reconditioned bikes to those who attend a maintenance workshop. Four days in January meant that 75 farmers, nurses, students and teachers are now mobile, and we share their gratitude to instigator David Peckham. Got a spare bike? See www.re-cycle.org.



Computer Rooms

Thanks to *digitalpartnership* and British and Foreign School Society the Kwahu-Tafo Development Council is on the point of opening computer rooms in all our Junior High schools, which will mean IT literacy for over 1,000 students! The KTDC is offering free training to teachers – and with a view to technological

careers would like to improve the students' English by providing audio facilities in every school.

A Music Weekend

The Royal Music Academy, sponsored by *ie:music* in London, gave a concert to show off the pupils' prowess in drumming, choral singing, brass band and pop music. A young trumpeter said: "*I would like everyone to come into the RMA so that we help the music - not only in Tafo but in Ghana.*"



RMA students show off their prowess in trumpet playing and Kete dancing



What you can do... Giving to FOT puts you directly in touch with a community where we make sure you see speedy effective results. We can find vital uses for whatever you can spare, and often fund a project that particularly interests you. With this Charity, it's personal.

Donations: join our list of generous friends! Donations by cheque, standing order or internet: www.cafonline.org. We can also transport much-needed second hand educational books and toys to Tafo, for about £10 a box.

Major thanks for recent donations go to: Sally and Keith Bamber; Serwah Edusei; The Goron family; Martin Hudson and Jenny Forbes; Tryphon Kedros; Hugh Kenrick Trust; Charles Lauder; Ray Lewis; Jules and Crispin Leyser; Susie Parriss and friends; Jan and Tony Robinson; SAFE at Jesus College, Cambridge; Adrian Slade; Robert Taylor; and Washlands Women Runners as well as our Christmas Card buyers and all of you who have given donations and attended our events.

New! Nominate FOT for a free donation every time you shop or search online! To shop: <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/friendsoftafo>
To search: <http://friendsoftafo.easysearch.org.uk>

If you would like to donate to our work please send a cheque to 'Friends of Tafo' along with your name, address and email to:
Friends of Tafo, P.O. Box 43826, London NW6 1XG Thank you so much!!!
Reclaim gift aid! I am a UK tax payer and would like Friends of Tafo to reclaim tax paid on my donation [] (tick box)