

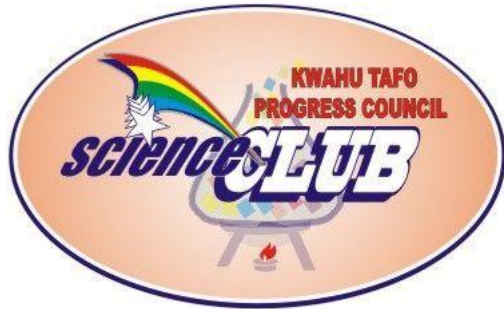
Friends of Tafo Newsletter 20

AUTUMN 2013



Friends of Tafo is a UK Charity that facilitates and inspires sustainable development in education, job creation and quality of life in the town of Kwahu Tafo, Ghana, West Africa. Registered Charity 1096242

TAFO'S GOT TALENT!



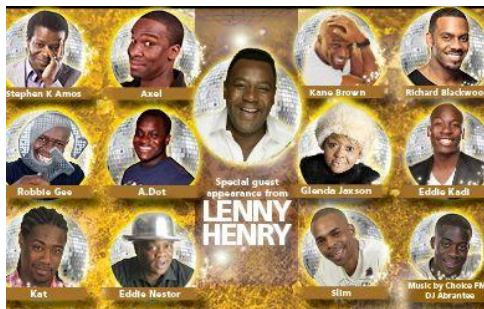
KWAHU TAFO SCIENCE CLUB

-- with a logo designed by local teacher Charles Agyemang -- is set to open with 200 Primary and Junior High boy and girl members this September. This hugely exciting initiative has been most generously created by CP Charitable Trust, found for us by Mary Cunningham, but it is only funded till March. The potential of Tafo kids is undoubted:

again this year two of our SHS students distinguished themselves at Ashesi University's IT Robotics Course. The Science Club will open the wider world of science to all Tafo's children -- but it is only funded till March 2014. **IF ANYONE KNOWS WHO MIGHT SUPPORT THIS FANTASTIC INITIATIVE, PLEASE CONNECT US WITHOUT DELAY.**

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Our tantalising compendium of Kwahu Tafo's tourism potential "Wake Up To Kwahu!" has attracted Dutch company ALDC to enter into a development partnership with Kwahu Tafo Progress Council. ALDC aims to advise, guide and seek finance for the eco-friendly development of Tafo's striking scenery and rich cultural life, with a view to both preservation and employment. If you'd like a copy of "Wake Up" please let us know.



LAUGHALOT

There's still **JUST** time to get yourself to London's Hackney Empire for the funniest fundraiser of the year, and fall about with a host of stars at **Strictly Come Laughing** on **Sunday September 8th**. Bring oodles of cash for the raffle and super merchandise and we'll squeeze you in. Call **020 8985 2424 !**

CRUMBS IT'S CHRISTMAS CARDS TIME AGAIN

This year we set a design competition in Tafo and the winner was 13 year old Emmanuel with this magical 'Storyteller'. A pack of 10 is only £5: our website has an order form, or of course you are welcome to contact us on info@friendsoftafo.org



FOT is: **Chair:** Humphrey Barclay BEM, Nkosuohene of Kwahu-Tafo; **Secretary:** Georgina Owen; **Treasurer:** Benjamin Ntim; Other **Trustees:** Crispin Leyser, Jules Leyser, Robert Taylor; **Committee Members:** Colena Abbosh, Peggy Rose Cradduck, Dr Tristram Wyatt, Michael Mensah

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THE SEAGULLERS ARRIVE

In July Dutch and BL Meyer, retiring from busy lives in the USA to devote themselves to Kwahu Tafo, took up residence in the 'Dutch Temporary Pad' which a team had raced to convert for them at the Akwaaba Centre. Once a welcome libation had been poured they wasted no time pitching in to the work of the Progress Council, starting with an ambitious plan for an Adult Literacy programme. Their influence and energies are going to be of untold benefit to the community.



OMG IT'S OHG!

And at the same time 20 young people and 4 teachers arrived from Oldham Hulme Grammar Schools under the aegis of World Challenge, to pitch camp for two weeks at their twinned school SDA Junior High. Their welcome was tumultuous, the connection instant, and the repairs and painting

work they did (and financed) made for wonderful collaboration with the pupils and staff.



The visitors learned about life and culture in Tafo, and their hosts are never going to



forget the event.

AND MORE WINNING TWINNING



SDA Primary repaired a walkway with a donation from Puddletown First in Dorset, RC Primary mended their drums and rebuilt their canteen shed thanks to Shere Infant School in Surrey, and Islamic School finally got a WC thanks to St Paul's Hammersmith. London.

And here's a snap of Presby JHS watching a video made for them by Queensbury Academy in Dunstable, which (like Samuel Whitbread Academy in Bedford) devotes an annual fundraising day to Tafo.

Presby has gratefully dedicated a first Queensbury donation to replacing the polytank regrettably stolen from the WC built for them by St Paul's.



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ONWARDS AND UPWARDS

Thanks to Yeko Anim (the Meyers' US foundation), Adrian Slade, and Douglas Turner Trust, we are once again making it possible for more than 40 young people to attend University and other Tertiary institutions this coming year, with loans averaging £500. Here is the appreciative Awutor Horseku, on his way to a career in medicine.



HEALTH MATTERS

On which subject we are once more hugely grateful to the doctors at Presteigne Medical Centre in Wales who regularly share their profits with us. Their support enables Tafo's poorest people to afford medical care, and funds a major locally-devised Health

Awareness programme which we call Love Life.

KEEPS ON RUNNING

And who could be healthier than FOT Committee Member Peggy-Rose Cradduck, who for the second time has run for Tafo, this time in the 2013 BUPA 10K challenge, completing the course triumphantly, and raising funds for the Progress Council's IT Maintenance programme. Run, Peggy-Rose, run!



HOME IS WHERE THE ART IS



Tafo's tiny Art Club survives largely through the generosity of Friend of Tafo Sue Taylor, but is finding its feet with commissions for school decorations and T-shirt printing. Meanwhile 10-year old

Ebenezer – quite unprompted -- demonstrated his recycling instincts by making a shirt out of ice-cream wrappers.



GOD HELPS THOSE WHO ..

We are rather delighted to say that at the suggestion of Akuamoah Boateng, the Progress Council's Ambassador to FOT, the Kwahu Tafo community has accepted the principle of a levy to support the Library, a further instance of the Council's plans to make its development more self-supporting.

And two other unprompted initiatives have come from PTAs: the Methodist JHS PTA is funding the renovation of the ceiling in its IT Lab (left), and the SDA Primary PTA the building of a new classroom to replace the one they gave up to be a computer lab.



And not to be outdone, the Chief has given an old building, and a quantity of materials, to create permanent premises for the Royal Music Academy (right).



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GO WITH EVEN MORE FLOW

We are thrilled that Ghana International Foundation has agreed to fund the mechanisation and quadrupling of the clean drinking water outlets at one of the boreholes so generously sunk by Greencare Foundation in 2011. This will make a fantastic difference to the surrounding populace, and to the Progress Council coffers for maintenance and future development.



FARMING TODAY



We have done very little over the years to assist our basic community – farmers. We have now formulated a detailed proposal to acquire a tractor for Progress Council to hire out and kill two birds with one stone: helping the peasant farmer to upscale, and providing an income for the town’s development. We live in hope.



HEARTFELTS



In our Spring Newsletter we regrettably didn't find room for the thank-yous we owe to our most enthusiastic supporters, so apart from those already mentioned herein let's big it up for the following without-whoms: Alderton Partnership * Alex McCowen * British and Foreign School Society * Carol Evershed * Computer Aid International * East Side Young Leaders Academy * Emma Thompson * Michael and Helen Palin * Paulette and Beverley Randall * Rory Fellowes * Sarah Moore * and so many more both in UK and Ghana, notably the FOT Committee and Kwahu Tafo Progress Council who continue to give their unstinting time and help to the service of others. Ye da mo ase.

SUPPORTING US

GENERAL DONATING

If you'd like to give to Africa the personal way, you can do so by standing order (ask us for bank details) or at www.virginmoney.com, or at www.cafonline.org, or you can fill in this box and send it by post to Friends of Tafo, P.O. Box 43826, London NW6 1XG.

I'd like to contribute, and enclose a cheque for £ made out to "Friends of Tafo".

Name Phone

Address.....

..... Email address

I am a UK taxpayer and would like Friends of Tafo to reclaim tax paid on my donation.

AND FINALLY

We would like you to know that in Tafo there is a cat with a moustache.

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