

# Friends of Tafo Newsletter

AUTUMN 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 *twelfth* 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.



## Onward & Upward

We are very proud to have helped our first University students. Julius Apiadu (left), whose mother (left) says it is beyond her dreams, will read Psychology, Music, Sociology and History at Legon. Farmer's son Isaac Dankwa will study Agriculture at Tamale with a view to career in Forestry. First year costs are about £400 for each, and we hope to do the same for others, funds permitting.



## EVENT! MICHAEL PALIN SUPPORTS FOT



A not-to-be-missed evening with Michael Palin and FOT chair Humphrey Barclay, once his TV Producer and now Development Chief in Tafo, at Royal Geographic Society in London, January 21st 2009.

Go to [www.friendsoftafo.org](http://www.friendsoftafo.org) for tickets at £20!

## NEWSFLASH!!!

After a flying visit, Adam Warren of Greencare H2O has offered immediate total funding for the dredging of Tafo's unsanitary river. Work will begin in February 2009, and he has also undertaken to address the task of cleaning up all the town's wells.



## CHRISTMAS CARDS

This year we are thrilled to be reprinting our

best seller 'Palm Tree'. It's not too soon to order from [www.friendsoftafo.org](http://www.friendsoftafo.org).

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 Rose Craddock, Tristram Wyatt.

# Latest News from Tafo

## DOING, DOING, DONE

The 300-strong Girls Science Club, created by Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls, held its first prize-giving and took a field trip to the Forestry Research Institute of Ghana in Kumasi, and the University, which several of them vowed to attend.



The Senior High School now has its own Library, painted in school colours and complete with TV for Distance Learning, thanks to Adrian Slade.

Samuel Whitbread Community College students Owen Thomas and Emily Forbes visited Methodist Junior High where the Head thanked them for the computer room they helped build.



Puddletown First sent sports kit to SDA Primary, paid for the school's very first coat of paint, and have learned their own school song in Twi.

Maney Hill Primary enabled a lockable classroom at the Experimental Primary to keep school furniture in (under construction).



School sanitation is under way at Presby and Islamic thanks to the boys of St. Paul's, London.

Islamic Primary is at last looking like a proper school, thanks to EYLA and St. Paul's School Staff swimmers.



Needy Pupil Yeboah Ofori was found unschooled aged 9, and is now prospering at Experimental Primary.

Computers are now installed at all four Junior High Schools, thanks to IBLF and British and Foreign School Society.



A photocopier is now earning money for the Community Library.



Ultimate Voluntary Organisation, run by teachers Christian and Eric, welcomes gap-year and other volunteers from abroad to help coach football, teach, and join culture classes in Tafo. Check out [www.ultimate-voluntary.org](http://www.ultimate-voluntary.org).

Film shows for all ages are now possible, thanks to sound equipment from SAFE at Jesus College, Cambridge.



Tafo's Sexual Health programme "Love Life" staged its first event in a year-round project.



Grasscutter Farming: a first training programme in how to rear this staple food was attended by 50 people.



We are now ready to open a leatherwork centre and give a year's training to 12 disabled and abled people – if we can find £6,000.

The Community Library now has a TV and deck, through the generosity of a group of Tafo citizens who live in London.



An Art Club and a Drama Club are both up and running – the former attracting adults as well as children.



Presteigne Medical Fund is enabling 12 year old Janet Opokua to have a new leg fitted. Hers had to be amputated, after a school bench fell on it and she didn't dare tell her parents.

## TO DO



KTDC has a chance to participate in Tafo's groundbreaking **Millennium Challenge Account Edible Almond Oil project** and earn big sustainable money for future development. Acquiring and cultivating a 10 acre plot is a one-off £8,250. We are really keen to enable this on behalf of the community, but so far have not found the funds.



**Public Loos:** The town's facilities are pretty horrible, and we are looking at introducing Enviro-loo, a re-cycling system which has been successfully piloted in Ghana. A clean, odourless, waterless income-generating 10-seater will cost £13,900. We are working on subsidising free use.



## WERE YOU THERE?

"The Empire Strikes Black 5" (our gala comedy concert, this year with a special message from Gloria Gaynor!) raised over £12,500. Loving thanks to all participants, and in particular Sarah Moore, Paulette Randall, and Beverley Randall.



Other fund raising events (thank you!):

- Colchester's "Quire" staged a concert of African music and raised £960
- Walkley Midnight Walkers raised over £300
- A party at Art First Gallery in London raised £700



**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: . We can also transport much-needed second hand educational books and toys to Tafo, for about £10 a box.

We are so grateful for all support, and in particular recently: Channel 4, Greencare H2O, Milbank, Indulge Rum Punch, BFSS, IBLF, A.G.Leventis Foundation, Emma Thompson, Phyllida Law, Puddletown First, Maney Hill Primary, Walkley Midnight Walk, Richard and Joan Barclay, Pauline Collins and John Alderton, Tryphon Kedros, Quire, Sutton Coldfield GSG, St Paul's School, EYLA and Adrian Slade.

**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)