

Friends of Tafo Newsletter

SPRING 2004



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 **third** update on our achievements and plans in Tafo – all made possible through the generosity of you, the Friends of Tafo.



Building for the Future

Once again the people of Tafo are impressing on us their desire to promote education for all ages. Currently, the prime focus is the revival of the town's secondary school.

FOT is aiming high: we have funded five teachers, and, funds permitting, we are planning to refurbish the run-down building, install a computer classroom and build washrooms and a sports field by September 2004.

Update: work has started on Phase 1 - before the rains come!

Good News!!

We have funded training for a self-sustaining soap-making industry. Around 50 women will learn to run their own businesses or to be part of a cooperative, which will plough profits back into the community.

DON'T MISS!! GREAT COMEDY EVENING COMING UP IN AID OF FRIENDS OF TAFO - APRIL 25TH SEE ATTACHED FLYER!

FOT Chair: Humphrey Barclay, Nkosuohene of Kwahu-Tafo; Secretary: Georgina Owen; Treasurer: Benjamin Ntim; Trustees: Crispin Leyser, Jules Leyser, Daisy East, Lizzie Pomeroy, Robert Taylor; Committee Members: Jessica Dallyn, John Ofori.

Building for the Future



Two key groups have emerged to champion the needs of the young people of Tafo: The Youngsters Club (left) and the Tafo Students Union (TASU).

Their good organisation and eagerness has so impressed the members of the Development Council that two members of the groups have been recruited to contribute to shaping the future for their generation.

We have funded two of their initial projects: the visit of an eye clinic to the town and an HIV/AIDS awareness day.

And next...

- An expert volunteer from a government centre in another town has offered to come and teach some of the 100 members of Tafo's new Disabled Association skills in leatherwork and tailoring. A series of preliminary meetings has been held and we are looking for funding and equipment.
- We will be starting a drive for specific vocational text books in support of the Technical Institute.
- Stand by for the new FOT website...



Feedback

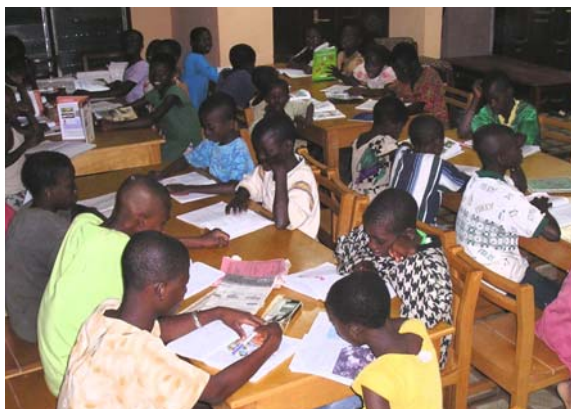
Humphrey Barclay, who is Development Chief in Tafo, returned from his January visit with the following news:

- **Photo competition:** 450 children used donated disposable cameras to take photographs as part of our competition to portray life in Tafo. See next edition for results!



- **'Needy pupils':** the first 176 FOT educational bursaries are working well. *"I am so happy to be at school so that I can become a nursing sister."* Gifty (age 5, right of photo).

- **Community Library:** opened at Easter '02, it is a huge success and is packed out every evening with children engrossed in their books and homework. Future activities include showing educational videos – contributions welcome!



UK News

- Christmas Cards sold out, raising £1500 – more next year.
- A new friend of Tafo raised £650 at her Christmas party for the children of the town, and Celador Productions' Charity Fund gave us a wonderful gift of £1,000.

What you can do...

We welcome all enthusiasm from our kind supporters, including networking suggestions for specific needs.

Donations: we currently need educational books - second-hand or new - sports and scientific equipment, educational videos, and even musical instruments - as well as money!



Regular Donations: We are being wonderfully supported by spontaneous donations, and as our understanding of the town's needs develops we are finding that a reliable income is invaluable. Anyone who feels they can commit a regular donation by standing order or even better 'Give As You Earn' directly from your payroll, will be an extra special Friend of Tafo! Contact us for details.

E-giving: find FOT on www.givenow.org and www.caf.org.uk

I would like to contribute, and enclose a cheque for £.....

made out to "Friends of Tafo"

Name: _____

Address: _____

email: _____ phone: _____

I am a UK tax payer and would like Friends of Tafo to reclaim tax paid on my donation (tick box)

Please send to: Friends of Tafo, P.O. Box 43826, London NW6 1XG
Medaase piiii (Thank you!)