

Friends of Tafo Newsletter

SPRING 2009



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 *thirteenth* 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.

Water Water Everywhere!



Tafo's river has been dredged. Greencare H₂O and Kwahu-Tafo Development Council have transformed the heart of the town, restoring a silted-up mosquito-ridden and



unsanitary flood hazard back to free-flowing good water: and the town is learning how to care for better it in future.

FUNDRAISING THE ROOF



After 5 years of The Empire Strikes Black, it's pure stand-up this year from Britain's top black comedians in STRICTLY COME LAUGHING! It will sell out, so **book quickly for the funniest night of the year** at the laughable price of £15.00. May 31st, Hackney Empire, 0208 985 2424



Michael Meets the Comedy Chief

More than 200 people came to the Royal Geographical Society in January, to hear Michael Palin interviewing his one-time TV producer Humphrey Barclay about his work in Kwahu-Tafo. The event was generously videoed by Rapid



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Pictures and featured on BBC R4's Midweek and BBC World News.

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., Tristram Wyatt

Latest News from Tafo

Doing, Doing, Done

Wheelies

A long search found a new self-powered wheelchair at a workshop in Accra for the ever-enthusiastic Adamu, thanks to Presteigne Medical Centre and Pym Goron.



Grand Islam

Eastside Young Leaders Academy and Douglas Turner Trust are combining to complete the rebuilding of the Islamic Primary School, to which St Paul's London is adding five WCs.

Never Too Old

An old people's party provided an occasion for drumming and folk songs, one of which at least was definitely rude, but one 125 year-old didn't mind.



What Do You Know

The Girls Science Club, thanks to Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls, goes from strength to strength with more than 300 members. Now the question is, what to do about the boys?

Music To All Ears

Resplendent new instruments, courtesy ie:music, ensured a great show at Ghana's Independence Day Parade on March 6th, and a chance for this young lady to blow her own trumpet. We are also proud to be grooming a candidate for Winneba Music College next year.



Words From The Wise

Laura Daly, who links overseas expertise and Ghanaian development, came for conversations in Kwahu-Tafo and agreed on several areas of possible assistance, with agriculture foremost www.ikando.org



The Nutty Processor

Kwahu-Tafo's Almond Oil Project gathers momentum, and inventor Sam Hope is now embarking on a Government co-funded marketing trip to UK and China.





Ready Teddy Go

Three teddy bears took holidays in Tafo last year, from Puddletown First in Dorset (below right), Maney Hill Primary near Birmingham (left), and St. Christopher's Primary in Langford, Gloucestershire (above right, with the

Chief of Tafo). The last, locally christened Kofi Ghana, has already been back, this time to learn about Ghanaian cooking.



CAN YOU HELP? New Projects we need funding for:

Sanitation: The town has ambitious and forward-looking plans for a new 'Enviro-loo' public convenience.

Home Economics: Tafo's fast-growing Senior High School needs Dressmaking and Home Management units to complement the Food and Nutrition block nearing completion.

Love Life: Tafo's comprehensive year-round awareness programme on HIV/AIDS, malaria and teenage pregnancy needs on-going funds.

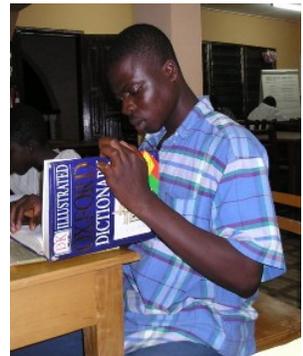
Internet connection: Now that all our schools are computerised, thanks to IBLF and BFSS, we are eager to link them to the outside world.

Leather workshop: Local expertise is ready to open a leather and orthopaedic training centre, for disabled and other participants

Wells: We are planning a major overhaul of all existing wells and the construction of several new hand-dug ones and boreholes, in pursuit of clean free drinking water for all.

Science Equipment: One day we would like to build a Central Science Block for all schools to use. In the meantime each school needs practical equipment – and, like, a cupboard to store it in.

Solar power: Ghana suffers frequent and random power-cuts, disrupting evening homework at the Library among other places. We are planning to pilot a solar power back-up facility.



You could help any of these, and follow progress in our frequent reports.

Glad Tidings

Our Palm Tree Christmas card did very well, raising more than £2,000. Huge thanks to all who bought, or sent donations.

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 second-hand educational books to Tafo for about £10 a box. English textbooks are particularly needed

And thanks to all our generous donors for their new and continued support, especially in recent months from

Abberley Pre-Prep School, Wendy Bailey, Nicky Henson, Eric Idle, Karen and J-P, Kenrick Trust, Brian Marshall, Alec McCowen, Ian McKellen, Michael and Helen Palin, SpaGas Ltd and Imelda Staunton.

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)