

# CHCT Newsletter

FOR SUPPORTERS OF THE CATRIONA HARGREAVES CHARITABLE TRUST

Issue number 30

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## CARRY ON NURSE!

### **CHCT aid for medical training will improve health for thousands**

**TEN eager medical students in rural Africa will have their training and support paid for thanks to a £13,751 grant from CHCT.**

Once qualified, these nurses will have the potential to professionally care for thousands of people over many years.

In addition, supporting their education and subsequent employment will sustain them, and their families, out of poverty.

The funding came, appropriately, from the generous legacy left to CHCT by supporter Isobel Livingstone who was herself a nurse.

Progress of the students is being monitored by our sister charity Hands Around the World who have long experience of life-enhancing projects like this.

#### **Qualifications**

Courses lead to a variety of qualifications ranging from one-year training for nursing assistants to a full 3½ year diploma.

Many of the young people have written to CHCT expressing their appreciation. Esther Kagendo, who is at Meru University in Kenya, wrote: "I am so delighted to update you on my progress.

"Studies are becoming easier and more realistic as we move from theory to work in the hospital where we are able to interact with real patients. I am



*Next generation . . . Four of the students in Africa*



determined that as soon as I have finished my degree I will be able to serve people, community, country and the world at large." Irene Kauria, also in Kenya at a Methodist medical school, wrote: "I am doing well in both theory and practical though there are some challenges.

"There is so much information I can't get it all on my phone! The best experience is offering services to patients, this reminds me that one day I will be a qualified nurse.

"Most of all I would like to specialise in a higher diploma for nursing children."

**ARE YOU ON EMAIL?**

**Supporters receiving the newsletter by email can get full colour, sharper pictures--and save the charity on postage.**

## RAISING THE ROOF

THE Mustard Seed school project in Kenya was given a further £2,000 from CHCT—then scored lucky with the Big Give top-up bonanza.

They ended up with £19,333, enough for their ambition of building a second storey of six more classrooms which has already begun (right).

This will do away with children getting soaked walking from a separate hired building. Co-founder Rita Fowler said: “It will also save us a packet in rent.”



# Grants hit record

CHCT supported more services than ever before in the past financial year, providing £37,074 to good causes. On top of those described elsewhere these comprised:

£3,200 to SALVE International, a UK and Ugandan based charity which helps vulnerable young people living on the streets to find a safe home and re-enter education.

CHCT funding supported a residential drug rehabilitation programme to treat addiction with high quality medical care, as well as longer term counselling and education.

£2,000 to Starfish in Malawi, one of the poorest countries in the world with over half the population living below the poverty line. The group has been supporting community development there since 2009. They improve access to health services with clinics where vulnerable children can receive health care when their families are unable to afford it.

£2,000 to the Concord Trust in Tamil Nadu, India, which enables clean water for neglected rural communities.

The funds paid for boring a well and construction of a safe water tank and pump. in order to provide

safe drinking water, specifically for down-trodden “untouchables”.

£1,800 to Ebenezer Women’s Welfare, Sangam, India. This 12 month project provides food and day care for HIV affected children aged up to five who are otherwise left on the streets.

£1,000 to the Society for Community Development, also in southern India, which provide services including yoga, meditation, education and health care to women with HIV/AIDS. CHCT funded the supply of nutritious cereal for 50 women in palliative care.

### Nutritious

£1,345 to Jawahar Rural which provides screening for TB in 15 tribal Indian villages. The 45 poorest patients were also supported with nutritious food for 6 months to maximise their treatment efficacy.

£1,900 to Integrated Village Development India which aids lepers experiencing social stigma and discrimination.

The project aimed to provide a sustainable livelihood through pig farming. Local hotel owners and vegetable vendors agreed to provide their waste food for swill.

£1,000 to COREDA in Cameroon, a long term project which improves the teaching, learning and living conditions of orphans and vulnerable children. Our funding was aimed at a specific cohort of 9 children who had been homeless and needed safe accommodation, bedding and sanitation kits.

£2,000 to MUAFCIG, also in Cameroon, a farmers’ co-operative which distributed piglets to five groups of widows, disabled and HIV/AIDS patients.

The porkers fight poverty, food insecurity and unemployment as they breed in large numbers, eat kitchen waste and provide nutritious food.

£1,600 to Educate for Life India which provides a free mobile clinic service in partnership with the Global Hospital and Research Centre. The clinic visits about twice a month, aiming to see over 1,000 community members each year. The team can accompany them to hospital ensuring they receive what they are entitled to.

£1,500 to ALALA in Sierra Leone which provided a solar powered pump for fresh drinking water in the slums of Freetown, where over a thousand children have lost their families to ebola.

# Changing the team

THE trustees have paid tribute to their long-serving chairman Robin Owens, who retired this year but will remain as a trustee. Co-founder Cynthia Stanford writes:

“ Robin has been our chairman since the beginning of the charity, He has guided our development and kept us focused on our dedication to those where disease and poverty meet.

He was born in India and had a very good understanding of how disease and poverty marching together destroy lives, families and communities. His business career provided vital insight into how a

small and local charity should be operating and his guiding hand has stood the charity in good stead over the years, enabling CHCT to transform the lives of our beneficiaries.

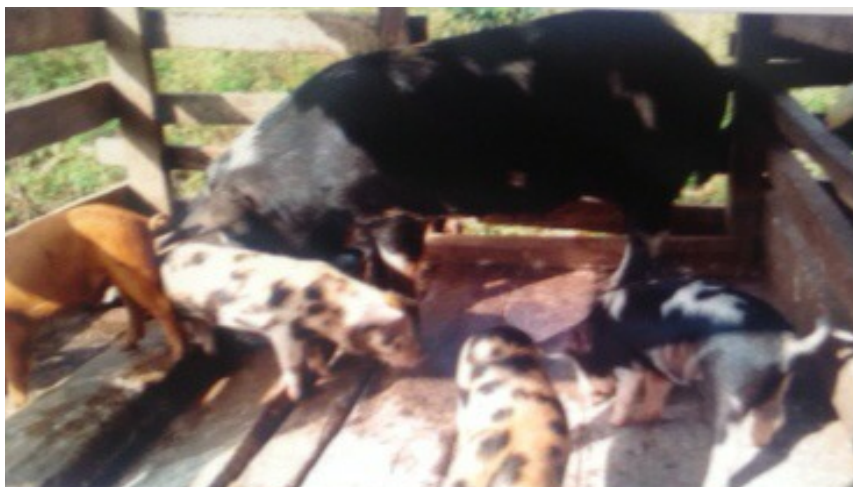
We shall miss Robin's wisdom in the chair but are grateful he continues to serve as a trustee and we wish him many years of health and happiness as chairman emeritus.

Two more departing friends will also be greatly missed. Chris Allen was a founder trustee at the foundation of CHCT. Whether as secretary, fund-raiser or helping to

facilitate medication for for needy leprosy patients stranded by the Iran-Iraq war she has proved a tower of strength.

Hilary Flatman, who also served as secretary, was a keen supporter of the charity but has stood down due to other commitments. ”

On the plus side, local vicar Fr Paul Kish has joined the team. As governor of three parish schools and a trustee of several local charities he has a long history of charitable representation and fundraising . He is keen to help CHCT make a difference where its help is needed.



## Take litter home!

THESE happy piglets and their mum are among those bought by the farmers' co-operative MUAFCIG in Cameroon with a grant provided by CHCT.

The animals are being shared around five groups of widows, disabled and HIV/AIDS patients providing food and income for families living in poverty.

A similar project is also running in India.

## BLP HAS EVENT OF THE YEAR

THE Bombay Leprosy Project led by Dr V V Pai (right), which CHCT has supported for many years, was chosen to host India's major national symposium on the subject last year.

Sessions first covered the latest treatments and methods of achieving the target of freeing the whole of India from the scourge of leprosy, which still has a large number of suffering patients despite the work being done by BLP.

Beginning with detailing latest medication and surgery to prevent or correct physical deformities, delegates then discussed diagnosis and detection followed by challenges to treatment and management.

A live video talk from a London specialist brought everyone up to date with the latest issues and the final session dealt with the social rehabilitation of patients among often suspicious neighbours.



# So this is Late Night Final

## THE CATRIONA HARGREAVES CHARITABLE TRUST

Registered number 1064838

IF you wish to help the charity's work for remote and forgotten people in places where disease and poverty meet, please send a cheque, payable to CHCT, to: Mill House, Claygate, Kent TN12 9PE. Taxpayers can help us reclaim an extra 25p in every pound from the Treasury if they kindly fill in and enclose this declaration form.

**I confirm that I have paid or will pay income tax and/or capital gains tax for each tax year (April 6 to April 5) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all charities or community amateur sports clubs that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand other taxes such as VAT and council tax do not qualify.**

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Address.....

.....

.....postcode.....

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I HAVE borrowed Cynthia's column to make my farewells after 20 years of creating and editing this newsletter. It has been a great privilege and an educational insight into how the majority world struggles to survive.

We've reported many inspiring stories and even a scoop Fleet Street missed—the harm done by the World Health Organisation in declaring an early end to leprosy. This only ensured that many surviving sufferers had their support reduced or withdrawn by cash-strapped governments.

Many of our issues detailed the top-class social events put on by the Friends of CHCT to raise funds—and not a few brimming glasses. Who can forget the night of countless steamed puddings, John Stanford's personal favourite.

We entertained our supporters with everything from antiques quizzes to professional opera evenings, complete with three course dinners served on nearly white linen (well the wine spills easily in a tent...)

It softens the blow of departure that the trustees have sent me a gracious email of appreciation which I am proud to print below:

“Sadly, Phil is now passing the newsletter to other hands after 20 years. His talent with the charity's news has gained us many friends along the way and for this CHCT owes him much.

Thousands who struggle with disease and poverty in the developing world have reason to be thankful for his dedication”.

I can only wish my successor in the editor's seat as much satisfaction as it has given me over the years.

*Phil Heming*

### **ONLINE AID COSTS NOTHING**

IT'S easy to help CHCT when you shop online—and doesn't cost a penny. For a PC or laptop just register with [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and tell them you want to support the charity. For a mobile or tablet, download their free app from the App store or Google Play.

Click on their site each time before shopping and they will then automatically pass on a percentage of everything you spend at more than 2,700 outlets including eBay, Amazon, most major stores and holiday operators.