



The Indigo Project
Gambia

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Summer Newsletter: Issue 3

Newsletter Summer 2014 Issue 3

Hooray! We sent our first container to Gambia in August. It has been a great effort raising the funds of £2620 to do this. We had rag bag collections, catered for 'Whist Drive' evenings, sold items at car boot sales and had some ice bucket challenge donations.



However, a huge thanks for an amazing donation of £1500 from Sharegift Charity which completed our efforts. We couldn't have done it without them.

So it has been a busy few months!! and its not over yet.....

This November a group of 12 volunteers are going to Gambia to take part in community projects. Jeana and Dave are going in October to help unload the container and finalise the projects including carrying out final costings and project planning.

In the November trip we intend to:

- Tile the pharmacy floor, paint and deliver some more equipment. All items needed for the restoration were sent in the container.
- Discuss with local builders regarding laying the foundations for the school library at Janet school. We hope to raise £1000 before we go to enable this to go ahead if possible. The complete build will cost an estimated £10k. The library books and shelving were sent in the container ready for the completed build.
- Plant 100 trees and Lavender plants around Genieri village and new skill centre (right) as they discourage mosquitoes and reintroduce indigenous trees & plants back into the area. We expect this will cost £100-£150 and sponsors are being sought.
- Paint the school outside wall with the Genieri community. This is expected to cost £100-£150. Two artist are supporting this trip and teach craft work and designs with the children in class.



Updates on projects:



Health Centre/ Pharmacy – The Health screening has not been carried out as yet as it was felt necessary to have the all of the necessary provisions in place first, such as blood pressure monitors, bed, scales etc. So the intention is to make this a clean treatment area ready for the arrival of this equipment. The picture here is what the treatment looks like now.

Due to the timing of donations and the need to send items on a schedule we missed adding these items in this recent shipment- it just means we need to start raising funds again to do another one! This equipment has come to us as a very kind donation from Forres Health Centre which has relocated. We were given desks, treatment beds, chairs, weighing scales, shelving and medical books.



Skills Centre – In February 2014 we contributed £250 for the cement for the tailoring centre in time for the opening mid Feb. We travelled out in March to take 4 sewing machines, 5 sets of curtains and 100 kg of haberdashery all in our hold luggage. In the container delivery, just recently, we sent 60+ chairs for the tailoring centre and the village hall, plus 14 sewing machines which were kindly donated by Moray Waste Busters in Forres. The desks from the Forres Health Centre will make the individual tailoring stations for the skill centre in the village.



Many thanks to both Moray Waste Busters and Forres Health Centre for your generous support.

Nursery School: Last November we painted the inside of the classroom and delivered some equipment, this November / December we intend to paint the outside of the school with the community and deliver some more teaching aids.

Sponsored Children: We have 35 children sponsored for school year 14/15 with 6 of these still needing an individual sponsor. The Charity will pay these fees if sponsors are not found as our priority is to keep the children in continued education before taking on anymore. However, the goal is to make this 40 children. We have 5 children for whom sponsorship support would cost £40 per year and 1 child at £150 per year.



When we go in November the sponsored children will each receive a school bag, pencil case with all necessary equipment for their school year, underwear and a drinks bottle.

Future Fund raising events:

No set dates as yet as all efforts were in the build up to the container; however we are hoping to organise:

A Ceilidh.
Car boot/ table top sales
Further Rag Bag Collections

Funding is being sought for a donation of £5,000 a year to enable the work we do to continue in a sustainable manner. To date the core group volunteer their time and have paid for their own flights, travel to airports, accommodation, airport parking and Malaria treatment. We are looking for £5,000 a year to cover these costs to ensure volunteers can continue in a sustainable manner. This will cover up to six flights per year. As well as this providing the much needed work, together with planning and project delivery, it will also support 2 – 3 young people each trip. This will build on their skills as well as the communities we work with out there. Always and continuing working with a third world community and delivering projects which increase their access to education and improved healthcare.

Any avenues or suggestions for this amount will be greatly appreciated.

The next trip planned for volunteers is March 2015, please contact if you are interested. The groups are varied; this forthcoming project is made up of school pupils, artists, nurses and builders.

A BIG THANK YOU....

Thank you for the Rag Bag contributions. We have just received a second payment and have raised £400 in total. Thanks to the Staff at The Pines (Inverness). A big thank you to Sarah, Liz & Julie to name but a few. Friends, Family and last but not least Patricia Robertson and the members of her Church in Nairn. It is very much appreciated all the contributions people can give however big or small.

AGM: An AGM has been set for Thursday 16th October at 6.30pm at Tearie Farmhouse, Forres. **All welcome**

If you would like to sponsor a child or have any fundraising ideas we would love to hear from you & thank you all for your support.

If you would like to donate for the Rag Bag, any clothing shoes and textiles, we will sort through it. Clothing that is still wearable will go to Gambia. Any suitcases no longer in use can be utilised also. If you have any questions over what can be donated, please give us a call.

You can contact me, Jeana on 07747744478....

Thanks from the Indigo Team