



## The Indigo Project - Gambia

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Winter Newsletter: Issue 7

### The IndigoProject-Gambia

#### Happy New Year

As many of you are aware over the last few years we have been supporting The Janet School with a school build. The School now has a grade 8 but building work still continues for 2018 and 2019 at least, creating an Upper School for the pupils of the School.



This was the start of the build in 2014 and this is where we are up to in 2018. Hopefully 2018 will see a big push on completion. “Domonding Domonding” as they say in Gambia! Meaning ‘slowly slowly’

The last visit saw eight volunteers going to Gambia to paint the completed first section of the build.



In April 2017 a group of 8 volunteers again went out to The Gambia to work on the School. Unfortunately our effort were put to a holt as we were involved in a car accident on the second day there. None of the group had any life threatening injuries, but re-cooperation was certainly needed.

I was and am amazed at the positivity of the group, all of the group members still wanted to get their hands dirty and make a difference. Tina still managed to teach two people to swim and give several children their first experience in safe water - even with a bandaged hand. Dennis for his super roller painting, he obviously has lots of experience and more stamina than all of us. All volunteers were amazing.. Thank you so much.



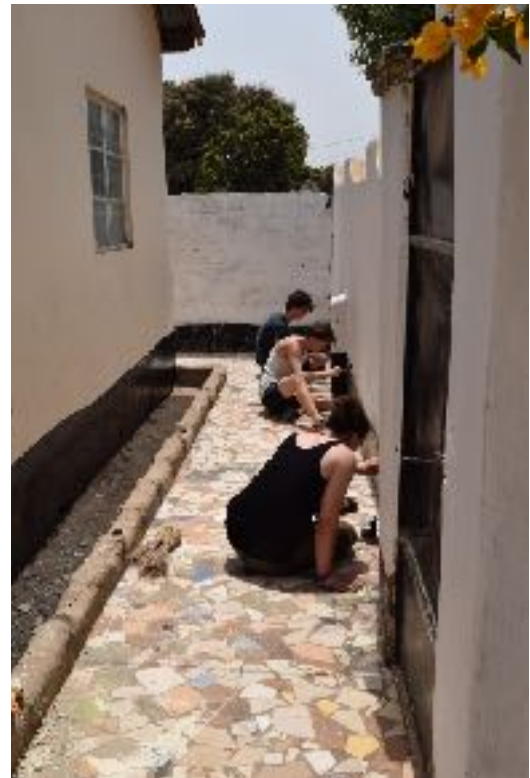
Our efforts went into making the nursery play area nicer. Our initial plan was to build bricks for the next phase. We managed to raise £1,000 towards this to buy the sand and cement. Instead we donated the money to Abdul who employed a local builder to build the blocks.



One bystander was caught in the fire of the paint and needed a bath ...

The Nursery play area Before & After





Mission complete and some very happy children with their new space.

We gave out 30 sponsor packs to The Janet School and sent 30 with Alex Manneh to the Generie Village. Generie is a minimum of 2 hours by car, so were unable to travel that distance due to the heat as it is 40c there. Due to the heat it is usually a flying visit so a long way to go for half an hour. Alex went again for us in December 2017 after our visit. We gave him all the School fees that our sponsors have kindly donated and he took some pictures of the children whilst there. Apologies that contact with the sponsor children in Generie is not as easy due to the distance. Also language is a barrier between the headteacher of the School .. we still try to support them by sending your donations and Alex hands it over to the families of the children, along with a new personalised school rucksack filled with the essentials and any gifts that have been sent.

Some of the children from Generie Village:



This School year we have committed to 30 children at the Janet School which is an amazing increase from last year. All but 7 of the children have an individual sponsor for this year. Thank you so much, it enables the Indigo Project to support more families to attend School through our fundraising.

The cost is £150 per year (£12.50 a month) this provides two uniforms and the equipment needed for a good education... all teachers at this school are qualified to a high standard.

We still support 3 children which have moved on to other schools as the upper classes were not available for them. Thank you Miriam & Julie for your support of these girls over the years. Both girls are doing very well, are getting ready for their next steps into college. We will get an update & pictures on their next steps for the next Newsletter.

These are some of the Children needing sponsorship, you don't need to sponsor and commit to £150 per year. Any donations that are made to the charity, go towards paying their fees until a sponsor is secured. At that time, we will take on more Children.



This is Lovette, She left Janet School June 2017 as her family could no longer afford for her to go to School. She was 14 years old.

We asked Abdul to contact the family and tell her to come back, without her final exams and completing her education, her choices would have been limited and unable to access a college education.

She is now happily spending another 4 years in School and wants to be a lawyer.



This Is Ya Huja Jabeng in Grade 1, She is looking for a sponsor.



Sirra Sanyang in Grade One recently has a sponsor. Thank you Anna Mary & to her daughter for sponsoring her friends Aja Sowe & Alusine DuDujobe.

## Some photos of around and about The Gambia

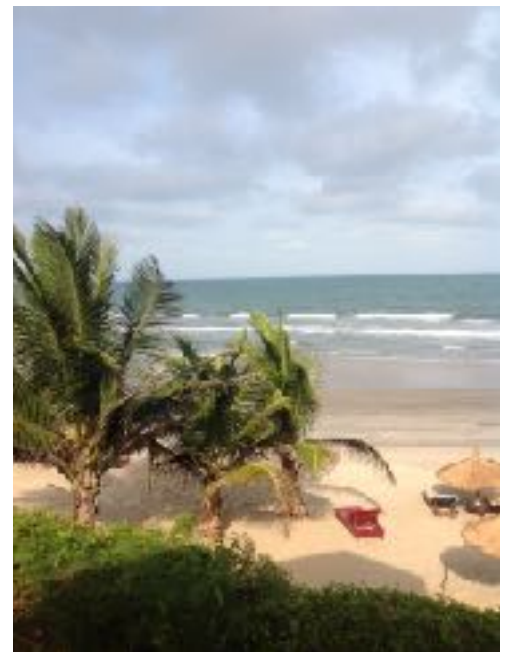


- An Osprey all the way from Moray
- Crocodiles in the street sewers
- Sorting chillies for market sales
- Mangroves for Oysters
- Workshops by the road side
- Tourist boat on The River Gambia





- Kitchen living
- Secret peeks to a vegetable garden
- Daily living
- Sun, Sand & Sea





## **Annual Monitoring**

We have just done the annual return for last financial year and the total The Indigo Project- Gambia raised was £5687.

## **Fundraising events**

**RagBag** - We are always collecting clothing and shoes. Some will go to The Gambia and others weighed in to raise funds. Last year we raised over £500

**Whist Drive** - Rona Harvey continues to do this every six weeks, making sandwiches and serving. Making over £400 a year. Thank you Rona.

**Coffee Mornings** - Forres Town Hall 31st March 2018 & 11th August 2018

**DubNess** - There will be some fundraising at a VW gathering that I am organising. Possibly a raffle with precedes to the charity. 24th-26th August 2018 at Bogbain farm, Inverness. If you would like to donate a price or a voucher, it would be gratefully received.

Many thanks from all at The Indigo Project. Please do keep up to date with events on the Facebook page or if you would like to take part in any events or future trips, please contact us on: [jeana.harvey@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jeana.harvey@yahoo.co.uk) or 07747744478

Best wishes  
Jeana & The Indigo Team