

THE DEREK BAILEY FOUNDATION CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2008

Dear Friends

Christmas Greetings from The Derek Bailey Foundation

As we advised you in our last newsletter, the Clinic at Nyofelleh was handed over to the Village Development Committee to proceed with its vital work for the village and surrounding area.

After much consideration and meetings, the Trustees of DBF decided to embark on a new project in the town of Gunjur, a coastal fishing and farming town on the Atlantic Coast of The Gambia. The population of Gunjur is around 15,000 with the majority of the population under 30 years of age.

MALARIA A GLOBAL PROBLEM

Malaria affects almost every Gambian, particularly vulnerable are Pregnant Women, Babies and Children under Five . Indeed one in four deaths in the Gambia is connected to Malaria.

We as a charity realise how much of your donations have been spent buying drugs to treat malaria, with this in mind we were pleased to join forces with a group of Gambians in Gunjur whose aim is to educate people to **PREVENT** malaria.

GANJU SARTA KAFU

The Ganju Sarta Kafu (GSK) as it is known, was initiated in January 2005 and this group has already proved how dedicated it is to help its fellow citizens. Its aim is to educate and alert on the prevention and dangers of Malaria using workshops, drama and local radio. The main means of simple prevention will be:

- The importance of sleeping under Insecticide Treated Bed Nets (Supplying them when necessary)
- Keeping clear all areas of compounds. (Providing tools to enable cutting down of vegetation etc)
- Filling in of pot holes that fill with stagnant water providing breeding grounds for mosquitoes (Providing gravel wheelbarrows tools etc)

The first work shop took place on 6th July 08 which was the start of the rainy season and the GSK Treasurer Mr Ahmed S B Bonjang reported being very pleased with the number of participants, particularly the large number of women who attended.

At the beginning of the project the GSK requested a lap top to assist with documents, communication etc and this was generously donated by Intelligent Innovative Business Communications. Many thanks to Calum Ferguson, Stuart Taylor and S Williams. The laptop was promptly delivered and has been of invaluable use in the preparation and continued delivery of such a large project.

EXTRA GIVING

- Just Fund, a charity in the UK donated £500.00 this year.
- Our musical friends, Dave and Val Machin held a concert and raffle and generously donated all proceeds to DBF. The theme of the concert was on Malaria and they composed a song of prevention of Malaria using a mixture of Mandinka and English.
- The Yeldersley Hall Open Day for Charity again donated a large percentage of proceeds to DBF

Some of The Trustees are planning holidays in The Gambia early in the New Year and will be taking the opportunity to meet and see first hand the fruits of GSK's labours and we will keep you informed in a Spring Time Newsletter. We are also in the process of upgrading our Web Site, making it more friendly to update and keep you informed.

The Trustees wish to again stress to you their thanks for your continued support and donations, without which we would not be able to help our friends in The Gambia.

We also again inform you that **EVERY** penny received finds its way to our needy friends in The Gambia and we give you greetings and many thanks on their behalf.

Thank You once again and Wishing You and Your Families a Very Happy Christmas

With Kind Regards
Fay Crawshaw
(Secretary DBF)