



From the Chairman:

News often seems to focus on the things that are going wrong in our world, or it zooms in on the falsities and speculations gleaned from 'lives' of celebrities. This newsletter is the antidote to all that. The stories here are of what is going well and what can be achieved - real, tangible differences in real people's lives.

Electrifying news from Ha Fusi, Lesotho:

Exciting news recently in from Lesotho confirms that, after a long struggle, all teachers at the school are now funded by the Government. This means that the Rafiki Thabo Foundation can turn its focus on to the pupils, making sure that they can capitalise on their start by going on to study at High School and then University. In addition, the school will shortly be fully electrified, with a line being taken from the main road down to the school site. This project has been funded by the SACDT, and has been undertaken in response to a pledge from the government to supply the school with a fully functioning ICT Suite. It will also allow the School to pump water from the bore-hole into storage tanks.



An additional benefit is the employment opportunity this project has offered the village, with a number of local men being recruited.



Uganda update:

Our hopes are high for the 6 pupils who are about to find out their High School results. One of these pupils is Medard Aryampa, who made a mark on Susannah Evans (Trustee) when she met him two years ago. Having lost various members of his family to HIV Aids related illnesses he had been brought up by his sick Grandmother who could not afford to send him to school. Determined not to let finances stop him, Medard tried through any means to spend time in the classroom. When it came to pay fees, he would be chased from the school. He spent much of his time having to study in the evenings. However, against all the odds, he managed to come top of the class. His school applied to the Rafiki Thabo Foundation for support and, without the burden of fees, Medard has made great progress, consistently coming top of his class - a true success story, and a great reflection of the difference a relatively small donation to the Rafiki Thabo Foundation can make.

Student networking in Kenya:

The Rafiki Thabo Foundation continues to support students at both secondary and university level in Kenya, at institutions stretching right across the country from Eldoret in West down to Taita-Taveta, a district near the coast. To keep in touch, the beneficiaries have formed a network - Blessed to Bless - and are linking up with one another and with us as trustees - see below for some emails received:

From Annette, who studied Commerce at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology - Nairobi campus:

'...I am currently in western province of Kenya working with One Acre Fund, my second month now. I love the place; it's great that I am able to put to practice what I have learned. I did well in my course ... and I will be graduating on the 29th of this month ... Thanks a lot for all you, the foundation did for me. It was really great, I won't forget that.'

From Julius Machango, who studied Tourism and Business at Kampala International University:

'Greetings from Kenya ... I finally finished my degree course from Kampala International Universities and am graduating on 18th Dec 2013 ... I am so happy for Rafiki Thabo for making my dreams come true, may God bless you much more.'

To find out more, or make a donation, visit our website:

www.rafiki-foundation.org.uk

Without your support, none of this would happen; thank you!