

Aurora Africa Trust

Beyond Poverty Relief ... to empowerment for Development

Registered charity number 1112964

NEWSLETTER No 3 – October 2008

WELCOME

Welcome to the third edition of Aurora Africa Trust newsletter!
Here is your update on progress we made since our last publication.
In this edition, among other items, we will talk about a walk event realised at Richmond Park last year, the support we received from Dawley Baptist Church and Enes' visit to Angola.

RICHMOND PARK WALK

Last year on the suggestion of the Aurora Africa Trust Board of Trustees meeting we decided to realise a fund raising event during the summer. Among many other suggestions a walk - 13 miles - around Richmond Park in South London was chosen as suitable activity for this purpose, as it would provides a good challenge for the participants to justify sponsorship from donors well as a great day out for them.

This activity was lead by Alex Coakley, Aurora's treasurer. Seven people volunteered to take part in the expedition. These are the names of those who participated: Alex Coakley, Panzo Abilio, Vicky Mateus, Carlos Nsingani, Luzolo Mintory, Stella Grogan and Enes Mayele.



The seven fund raisers converged to Richmond Station on the morning of March 24th, 2007 and marched towards the park. They were carrying a banner that read "Aurora Africa Trust – Angola School Project."

Richmond Park is a vast place of sublime beauty with stunning scenery all around. There is plenty of wild life in it including some rare species, such as the red and fallow deer.

The trip around the park took four hours to complete, almost uninterrupted except for the thirty minutes lunch break we enjoyed near a herd of deer.

We managed to raise in total £742.00 through direct sponsorship on top of which 28% will be claimed through the Gift Aid scheme.

We would like to thank all our sponsors, specially our work colleagues at AIG, KBR, Chirin Capital, NEW DALE nursery, and also the churches at Dawley Baptist in Telford and Westbourne Park in Paddington, London.

Special “thanks” goes to our family and friends who generously supported us.

DAWLEY BAPTIST

Dawley Baptist Church is Enes and Vicky’s home church in Telford, Shropshire, where they have been going since moving there from London in 2001.

Although being small, this church has distinguished itself by its empathy for the needy. In true spirit of the “Macedonian church” (2 Corinthians 8:1-10), besides actively participating in nation or region wide fund raising / relief activities such as Christian Aid and Christmas Shoe box campaigns and many others, every year this church donates the produce of its harvest service to the local hospice.

Having heard of the Angola school project and having reached the end of its commitment with Peace Chapel project in Ghana, in December 2007 the church offered to sponsor the funding of one classroom by way of a monthly donation of £420.00 for the next two years to Aurora Africa Trust.

This generous act has added a great spur for the school project in helping bringing it closer to reality. Aurora would like to thank Dawley Baptist Church for all its continuing kindness and support.

ENES’ VISIT TO ANGOLA

Last June Enes went to Angola on a private visit and took the opportunity to visit Kibokolo mission station in Northern Angola, where Aurora plans to implement the school project. Kibokolo mission was founded in 1899 by the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS) missionaries and was once the centre for culture, health and education in that corner of the country. Currently the mission has practically no viable physical structures as it was destroyed by the Portuguese colonial forces in 1961 and remained almost abandoned during Angola’s long civil war that lasted until 2003.



People in Kibokolo



Meeting with the elders

However, there is hope because since the advent of peace in the country some things are moving in the right direction, specially on the security front, although the economic situation is becoming increasingly difficult for most people. The church there is eager to have its institutions, such as Kibokolo mission, restored in order to continue with the work of evangelisation and social action in those areas of great need.



Kibokolo Mission – The Pastor's Office and Classrooms



Guest Hut - where I stayed

This presents a great opportunity for Aurora Africa Trust to help sow the seed of future prosperity through our school project.

Enes had a vivid reminder of the need for the school project as he visited the mission's primary school, and was shocked to find that the 91 pupils there have only one teacher! That is because the mission can neither find nor afford to pay for more teachers.

WHERE WE ARE AT

As you may be aware, all of Aurora effort at this stage is geared towards raising the funds needed to build the school; and little by little we are making progress.

We plan to build six classrooms and the supporting structures. Each classroom will cost £8,700.00. Until the end of 2009 we hope to raise enough funds (£26,100.00) for three classrooms and then start with the building phase the following year.

So far we have raised £12,500.00 and hope with your support we can hit the target. **Can you help? Would you like to help?** Please get in touch with us at contact@aurora.org or 36 Plant Close, Telford, TF4 2GT.

If you are a UK taxpayer, there is another way to further help us with your donation. That is, "Gift Aid". All you need to do is to fill in a Gift Aid form (we will provide) with your name and address. This will allow us to claim at least 28% of your gift at no cost to you.

BECOMING A TRUSTEE OF AURORA

If you can why not become a trustee of Aurora?

The trustees are people who have responsibility for directing the affairs of a charity.

If you would like to know more about this please request our leaflet "Becoming a trustee of Aurora Africa Trust" or download it from the Internet at www.auroratrust.org

AURORA TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEE

Here is the team that serves you at Aurora:

Chairman:	Enes M. Mayele
Secretary:	Panzo Abilio
Treasurer:	Alex Coakley
Communication Officer:	Santos Bunga
Advisor:	Steve Latham

PS – Congratulations!

1. Just a joy to share with you that our trustee member and treasurer Alex Coakley has married his beloved fiancée Miss Stella Grogan – the girl who so kindly supported us with the Richmond Park walk. To Mr & Mrs Coakley our best wishes of long life together.

2. Our Communication Officer Santos Bunga has concluded his Masters' Degree course in Electro Mechanics and is now working as field engineer with Alston. Well done Santos!