



UK Registered Charity 1110998

Gambia Education and Teaching Support NEWSLETTER

Issue 10 July 2010

SPONSORSHIP SPECIAL

What Sponsorship Means to Students

"My dream is to become a scholar and make a name for my country"

Welcome to the Sponsorship Special Edition of the GETSuk Newsletter.

Inside this issue you'll find details of our recent success stories, our sponsorship report summary, other recent GETSuk stories, as well as ways you can help.

Our contact details can be found at the back.

Will you help us by becoming a member of GETSuk?

Would you consider making out a standing order to pay our annual membership fee of £12 due on the 1st August each year?

You can download our membership form at

<http://getsuk.org/membership/membership.htm>

PLEASE encourage your friends to become members — it would help us tremendously!

Our sponsorship program has made the world of difference to the lives of many young people in The Gambia. One student particularly wanted to share his experience:

"I am Bakary Sambou and I was born in the neighbouring village to Brikama. Having finished Senior Senior Secondary education at Fatima in 2002, I proceeded to Gambia College and pursued on the Higher Teachers Certificate, and completed in 2005. Having realized the conditions of teachers in the Gambia as the most pathetic, and poor civil servants, I thought of how to proceed on higher education. This is because my dream is to become a scholar and make a name for my country on the globe. With the help of God, I met Bob at a time I went on a holiday. My special thanks and appreciation goes to him and Sue, his wife, for their tremendous



Bakary Sambou, who has been sponsored by Sue and Bob Coyne since 2007, has successfully completed his Diploma in Management Studies.

assistance rendered which enabled me to pursue on the Certificate and Diploma in management studies. My ambition in the few years ahead if I secure a scholarship is to pursue on a bachelors in management studies, marketing or Human Resources Management."



Computer Whizz Ebou!

Congratulations to Ebou Jarjue who successfully completed a CISCO course where he learned amongst other things wireless technologies, basic computer security, and operating systems. Ebou was sponsored by Tony Nelson. With your financial support we can help so many achieve so much.

Ebou with his CISCO certificate

Sponsorship Report: First Half of 2010



*"He who opens a school door, closes a prison."
~Victor Hugo*

Well done to the following students who will complete their studies this academic year:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| ✓ Sendeng Susso | ✓ Mamanding Jarra |
| ✓ John Paul Mendy | ✓ Bakary Sambou |
| ✓ Ebou Jarju | ✓ Sait Jah |

This Year's New Sponsorships!

The following students are lucky enough to have received sponsors this year, bringing our total sponsorships to 63:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| • John Paul Mendy | • Peter Mendy |
| • Ebou Jarju | • Anthony Correa |
| • Neneh Sosseh | • Katty Njie |
| • Haddy Sosseh | • Omar Sanyang |
| • Paul Mendy | • Fatou Faye |
| | • Stephanie Gomez |
| | • Cecilia Mendy |
| | • Elizabeth Mendy |
| | • David Mendy |

- Abubacarr Jobe
- Abubacarr completed his school education in July 2009 but is now studying at GTMI (Gambia Telecommunications and Multimedia Institute). His original sponsor agreed to pay for his new course, despite already sponsoring 2 other students!

Disappointments for Some

Unfortunately, there are times when students underperform and whilst their sponsors give them every opportunity to improve we have had 7 students in this academic year so far who have lost their sponsors:

Lamin Bah – for poor results

Ousainou Jobe – sponsor withdrew support at the mother's request due to Ousainou's poor results and poor attendance record

Gibril Badjie – sponsor stopped payments in August 2009. As Gibril did not have good reports from school it was decided not to

seek a new sponsor.

Momodou Lamin Badjie – sponsor stopped payments in August 2009.

As Momodou's school reports were not good, it was decided not to seek a new sponsor for him,

Sulayman Jobe Jnr and his brother Mohammed Jobe – sponsors withdrew support at the father's request. The sponsors now kindly support two other students.

Ramatoulie Bah – for poor results



We were unable to locate the following 2 students when schools reopened in September 2009

Sukai Colley

Binta Njie

Both sponsors have kindly agreed to transfer their sponsorships to other students.

**U
P
D
A
T
E
S**

In Other News— Bakoteh Nursery

These are a couple of pictures from our Nursery School at Bakoteh. Nfamara is the Headmaster. It's been a few years since the exterior of the school was painted and with the watchful eye of our Headteacher, the painter starts the work early in the morning and finishes later on in the day. The interior of the school was also given a lick of paint during the Xmas break by a number of Gambian volunteers but thanks also to

Sophie and Maya who gave up their time to help out. The school was also in desperate need of storage space and 2 cupboards were made by a local carpenter and delivered by the usual method, donkey cart!



Nfamara keeps a watchful eye over the painting and the new cupboards are delivered by 'Royal Mule'.



Thomas Goes Home to Sierra Leone

Thomas, who has been sponsored by Roy and Ann Hockaday, recently made a journey to the land where he was born, Sierra Leone. His country was ravaged

by war and Thomas was a victim of that war and was sent to The Gambia as a refugee in 2005. He desperately wanted to go back and see if he could

trace his family – he never knew what had happened to them. His search was not in vain because he met with his younger sister who is now 10 years old and some of his mother and fathers relatives. His younger sister has been living with their aunt. Sadly Thomas was told that his parents were killed as a result of the war.

Thomas has now decided that he wants to go back to Sierra Leone to be with his remaining family and finish his education.

He will complete his current schooling in The Gambia and then travel in the summer ready for the new academic year in his new school Bo Senior Secondary School.



Thomas is reunited with lost family

Don't forget our AGM!

This year at Domino UK Ltd, Cambridge,

CB23 8TU

12pm on the 21st August.

Contact Julie:

secretary@GETSuk.org

RAISE FUNDS FOR GETSuk FREE WHEN YOU *SHOP* OR *BROWSE* ONLINE!

All you need to do is log on to the easyfundraising site at

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/gambiaeducationteaching

Or set us as your homepage, and use it every time you search the web

www.gambiaeducationteaching.easysearch.org.uk

**UK Contact info:**

secretary@getsuk.org

sponsorship@getsuk.org

Gambia Office:

admin@getsuk.org

Visit our website at**www.getsuk.org**

How Sponsorship Works

Through local identification some children are sponsored by the charity. Others are identified by tourists who wish to support a particular child and request that GETSuk manage, monitor and report on the well being and progress of the student.

Staff in Gambia undertake this responsibility and ensure visits and reports are up to date. For this service a 10% administration fee is included in the cost of sponsorship, as a contribution towards the staffing costs of monitoring.

As a rough guide £12.50 per month will pay for a child's education.

Sponsorship includes: Annual membership of GETSuk, a contribution towards the expenses of our monitoring staff in Gambia, termly feedback, 2 newsletters per year, an annual account for your student, copies of school reports and an invitation to our AGM.

How You Can Help

Current Students Looking for Sponsors!

Famara and Bakary Bayo's sponsor is no longer contactable via the details currently held by us.

and Crafts. She attends school on a regular basis and has only been absent for 2 days due to sickness.

Mbayan Njie
D.O.B. 19/01/1992

Her school fees are likely

Mbayan will finish her Grade 8 at the SOS Upper Basic School this summer & progress to Grade 9 in September.

In term one this year she attained 20th position in class but in her second term she moved up to 3rd position. Her best subjects are English Language and Literature, Social & Environmental studies, Home economics and Arts

**Mbayan Njie**

to be in the region of £333, therefore we are seeking an additional sponsor or sponsors prepared to sponsor Mbayan for about £17 a month so she can continue with her studies.

Please contact Sheila Plaister at sponsorship@getsuk.org

Calling All Fundraisers!

Our new projects will need extra funding if we are to achieve all our plans. We specifically need funds for teacher salaries, new classroom equipment and general maintenance and improvement of the site for our new school.

If you would like to become a fundraiser, or have ideas for how we can obtain extra funds, please contact us at sponsorship@getsuk.org.

